THE GREAT TORNADO, FLOOD AND FIRE

SWEPT by MIGHTY WATERS

GRAPHIC WORD-PICTURES
of the Nation's Greatest Tragedy

"SAVED!"

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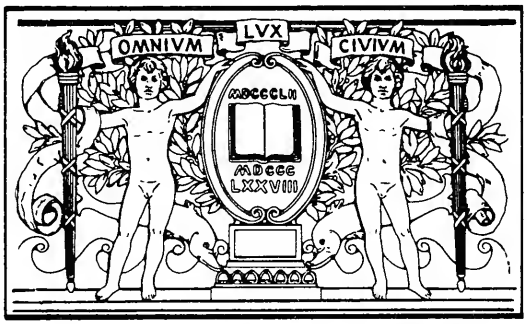

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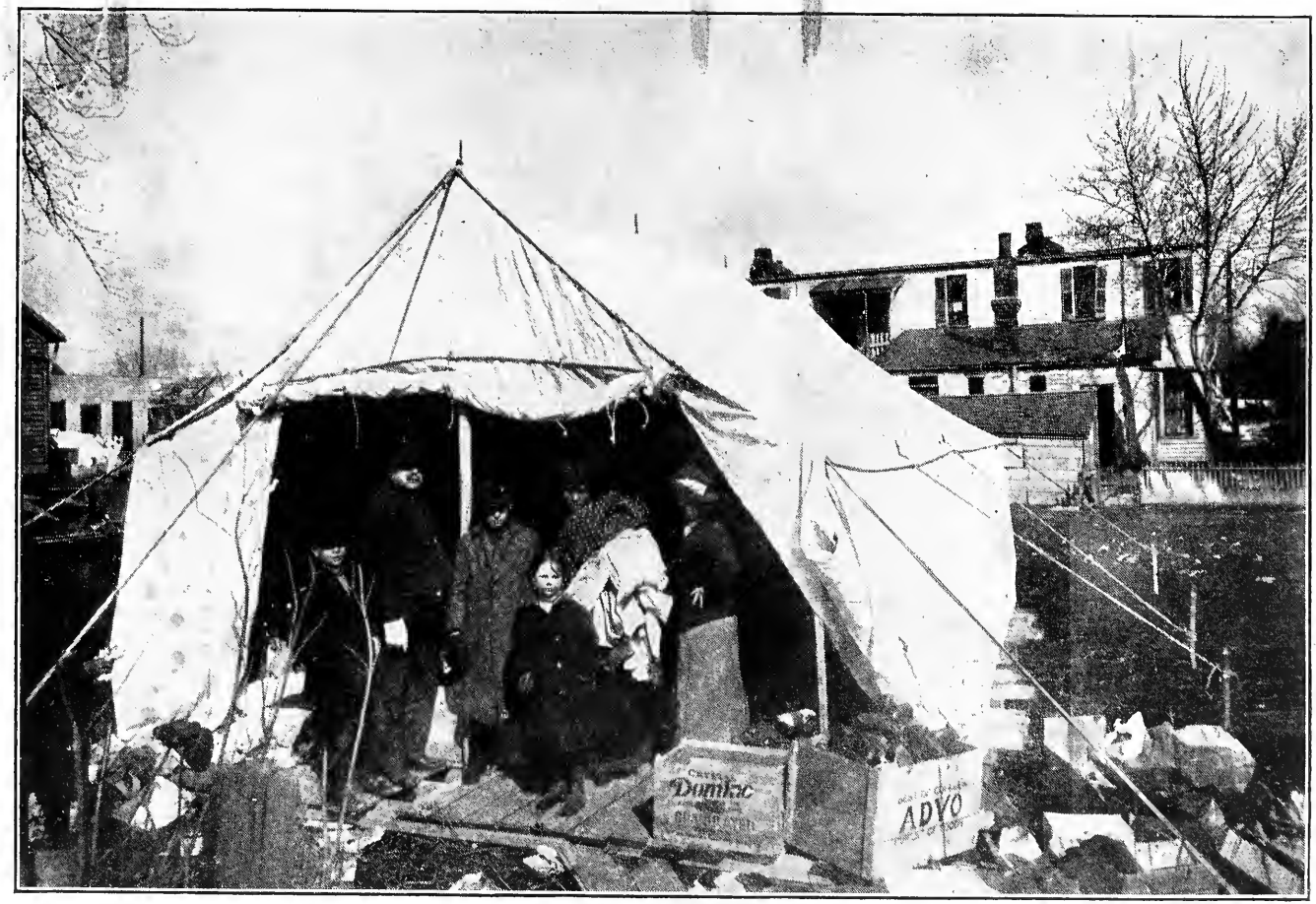
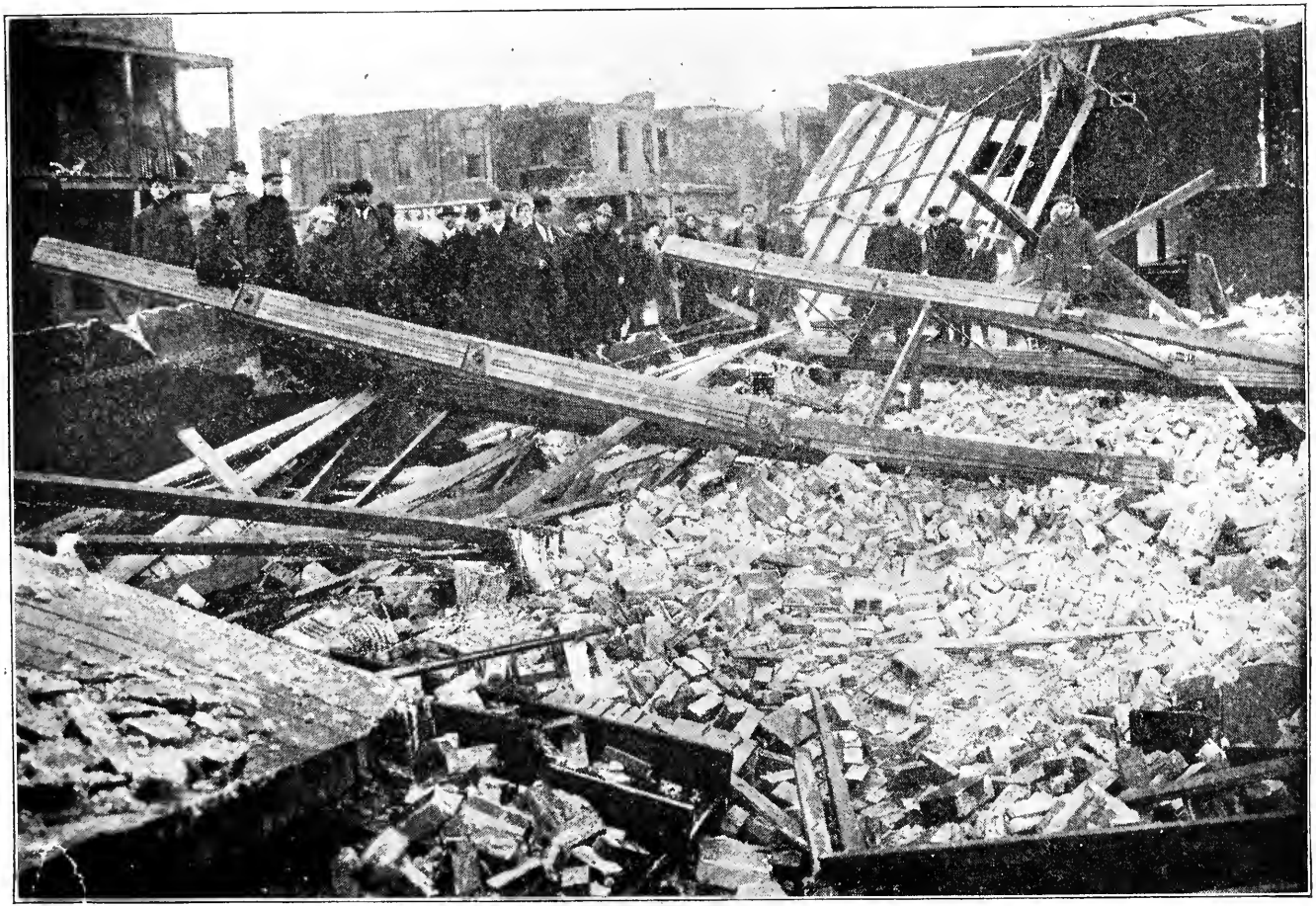
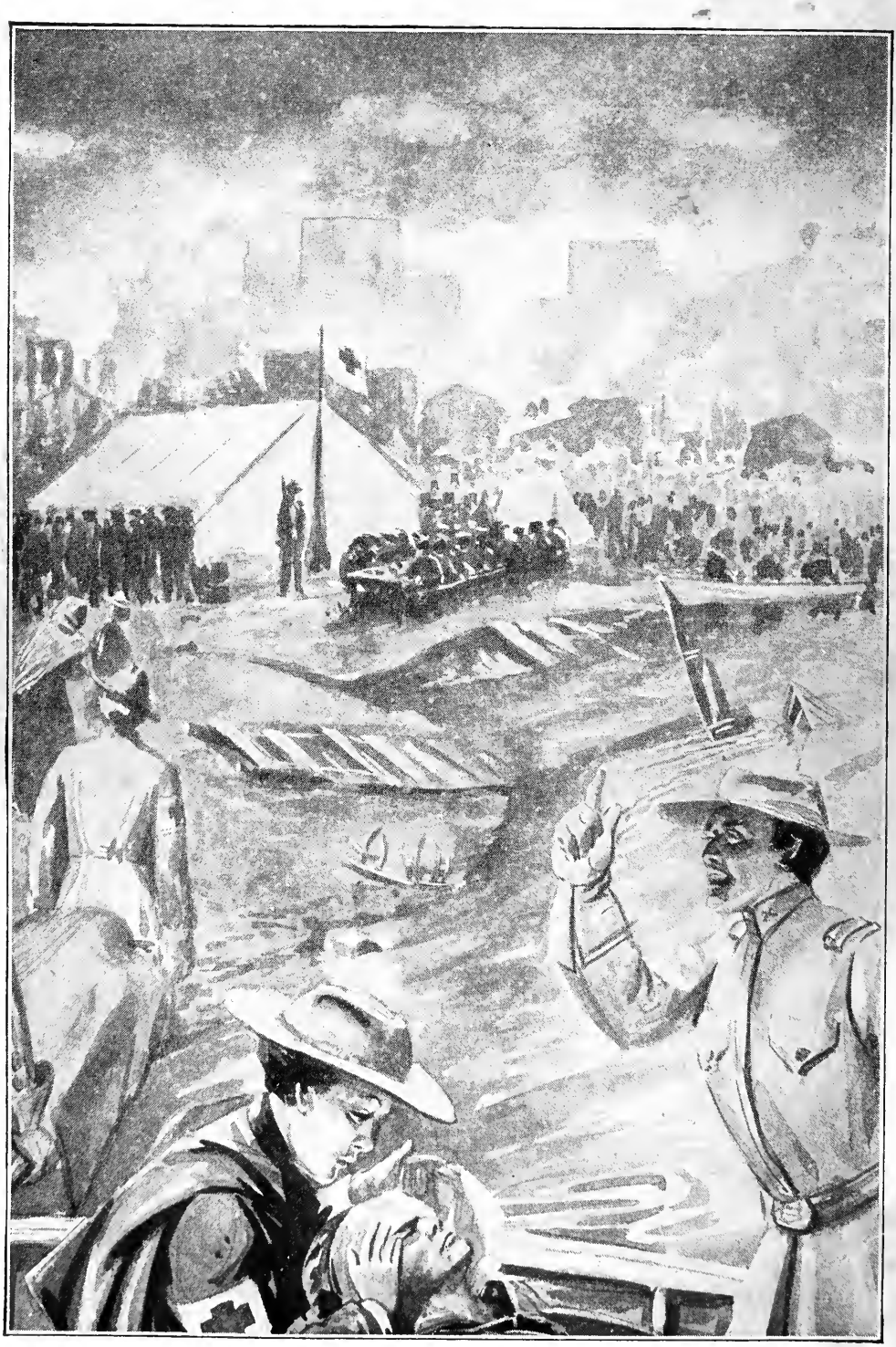


A Relief Station, Omaha. One of the depots established early the day after the storm, at 24th and Grace Streets. where there was much suffering.



Diamond Moving-picture House, at 24th and Lake Streets, Omaha.

Omaha — Bemis Park District, showing some of the Wreckage at 24th Street and Lincoln Boulevard. The homes of many millionaires were demolished here.



SOLDIERS AND RED CROSS NURSES ON RELIEF DUTY.
TEMPORARY HOSPITAL IN BACKGROUND.

"The Lord on high is mightier than the noise of many waters."— *Psalms xciii. 4.*

SWEPT BY MIGHTY WATERS

BY

THOMAS H. RUSSELL, A. M., LL. D.
Author of "The Great Titanic Disaster," etc.

THE APPALLING POWER OF NATURE

A STORY OF FEARFUL FACT, MORE THRILLING THAN ANY FICTION AND MORE PATHETIC THAN ANY TRAGEDY EVER STAGED BY MAN

Stirring stories of dreadful scenes witnessed by refugees and rescuers — Rivers turned to raging, resistless torrents — Massive dams burst asunder, and whole towns and cities inundated in the swirling waters — Thousands perish in the storm and flood, and hundreds of thousands rendered homeless — Bodies of victims float in the streets — Troops and naval reserves ordered out for duty in the stricken cities — Looters and marauders shot down by troops — Governors of Ohio, Indiana and Illinois appeal for help — The nation's prompt response — President Wilson calls for aid — Relief trains rushed to the rescue, and the purse strings of the nation unloosened — Cities and towns contribute generously for the relief of the sufferers.

Illustrations True to Life

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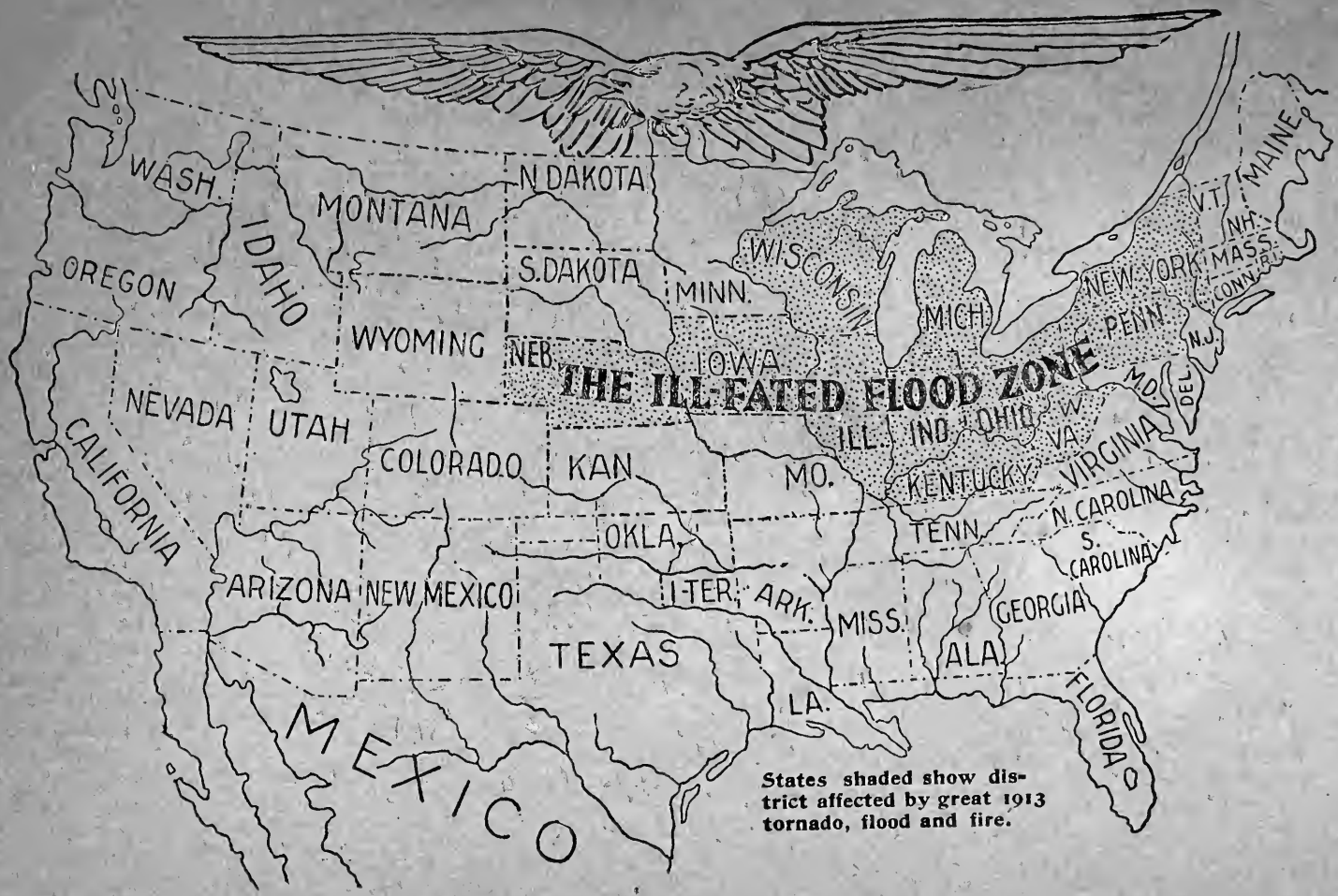
1913

Dedicated

To the memory of the countless souls who passed through death into Life Eternal amid floods and tempest in Ohio, Indiana and Nebraska, March 23-27, 1913; and to the service of their surviving kin and sorrowing neighbors who cherish their memory while mourning their departure in humble submission to the will of an All-Wise and Inscrutable Providence



States shaded show district affected by great 1913 tornado, flood and fire.

CONTENTS

PAGE

PREFACE 9

"ROCK OF AGES"—A Message of Spiritual Consolation 13

VICTIMS OF THE STORM'S VIOLENCE 20

CHAPTER I—DISASTER ON DISASTER 27

CHAPTER II—A NATIONAL CALAMITY 33

First Reports of Disaster Exaggerated by Fear and Horror—What Really Happened—Causes of the Flood—Overflow of Rivers Followed Long Continued Rain.

CHAPTER III—A NIGHT OF TERROR 49

Hours of Suffering for Marooned Victims—Dayton Isolated for a Day—Governor Cox Appeals for Aid—Work of Rescue Begins.

CHAPTER IV—EXTENT OF THE DISASTER 59

Statement by Governor Cox—Dayton's Plight Unparalleled—Many Women and Children in Peril—First Measures of Relief.

CHAPTER V—AS THE WATERS SUBSIDED 71

Fourth Day of the Flood—Waters Recede and Rescuers are Busy—Martial Law Enforced and the Situation Surveyed.

CHAPTER VI—BRIEF DIARY OF THE FLOOD .. 85

An Account of Flood Conditions in General, Told Day by Day.

CONTENTS

CHAPTER VII—Stories of Eyewitnesses... 91

Exciting Experiences of Many Who Traversed the Flooded Territory During the Deluge.

CHAPTER VIII—What a Correspondent Saw 111

A Concise and Interesting Story by One of the First Visitors to Dayton After the Flood.

CHAPTER IX—Incidents of the Flood.....131

Tales of Pathos and of Horror That Will Be Long Remembered in the Flooded Districts.

CHAPTER X—The Flood at Columbus.....155

CHAPTER XI—The Flood at Piqua.....163

CHAPTER XII—The Flood at Tiffin.....167

CHAPTER XIII—Indianapolis Flooded.....171

CHAPTER XIV—The Flood at Peru.....173

CHAPTER XV—Other Cities Flooded.....175

Details of the Deluge in Many Towns in Ohio, Indiana and Elsewhere.

CHAPTER XVI—Measures of Relief.....191

Steps Taken by Uncle Sam and the American People Generally to Aid the Homeless Sufferers.

CHAPTER XVII—Recent American Floods.207

Also Great Floods in History.

CHAPTER XVIII—What to Do After a Flood 215

Timely Advice for Stricken Cities and Towns by Dr. W. A. Evans, former Health Officer of the City of Chicago.

CHAPTER XIX—Comments of the Press... 221

CHAPTER XX—Lessons of the Flood..... 239

CHAPTER XXI—The Omaha Tornado..... 255

Graphic Description of the Destructive Storm that Devastated the Nebraska City on Easter Sunday.

CHAPTER XXII—In the Storm's Path.... 267

CHAPTER XXIII—What the Governor Saw 273

CHAPTER XXIV—The Work of Relief.... 279

CHAPTER XXV—How the Storm Started. 287

CHAPTER XXVI—The Dead in Omaha.... 293

CHAPTER XXVII—Incidents of the Tornado 295

CHAPTER XXVIII—The Pulpit on Disasters 317

Scene at 34th Street and Lincoln Boulevard, Omaha, on the Morning After the Tornado.

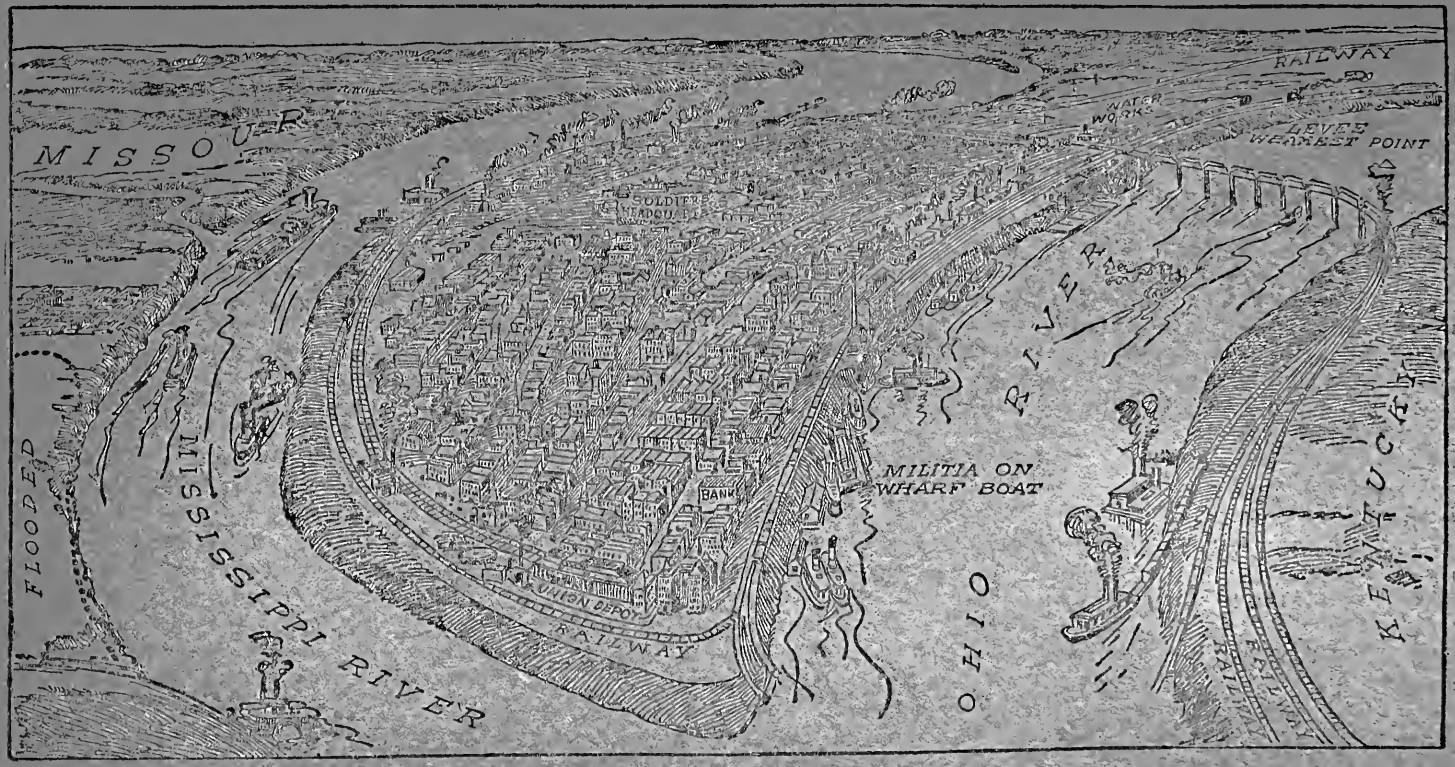
PREFACE

Another story of dread disaster reveals to the world the mighty power of Nature to rack the earth with storm and flood and fire, sweeping away whole towns and cities, destroying hundreds of human lives and rendering thousands of families homeless. It is a story of farms laid waste, railroads and dams destroyed, and tens of millions of property wiped out. But while it tells of the helplessness of man to avert the ravages of the warring elements, it also tells of universal self-denying human sympathy. The thrilling incidents of terrible tragedies are mingled with tales of the most remarkable heroism of life-saving crews who braved blizzard, fire and flood to rescue their fellow-men. Sympathy and succor flow in from every State and from far-away Hawaii and Alaska.

The moral of this sad story is: "An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure." It teaches the necessity of some organized effort by the national and State governments to deal with the momentous questions of cyclones and floods. Indestructible dikes and levees must be constructed to confine the raging waters of our inland rivers when lashed to fury by the angry elements.

If the terrible loss of life and property caused by the rush of mighty waters shall result in sure prevention of similar disasters in the future, the dead will not have died in vain.

CHICAGO LIFE SAVING CREW SAVES 597 LIVES AT CAIRO



MAP SHOWING WHERE FLOOD WATER AT CAIRO, ILL., REACHED THE TOP OF LEVEE.

THE NATION RESPONDS
RELIEF
ME.
N.H.
VT.
MASS.
R.I.
CONN.
N.Y.
N.J.
PENN.
DEL
M.D.
W.VA.
VIR.
N.C.
S.C.
GA.
FLA.
ALA.
MISS.
TENN.
KY.
IND
OHIO
MICH.
WIS.
ILL
MINN
IA.
MO.
ARK.
LA.
TEX.
OKLA
KAN
NEB
S.D
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MONT
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COLO.
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ARIZ.
UT.
IDA.
NEV.
CAL.
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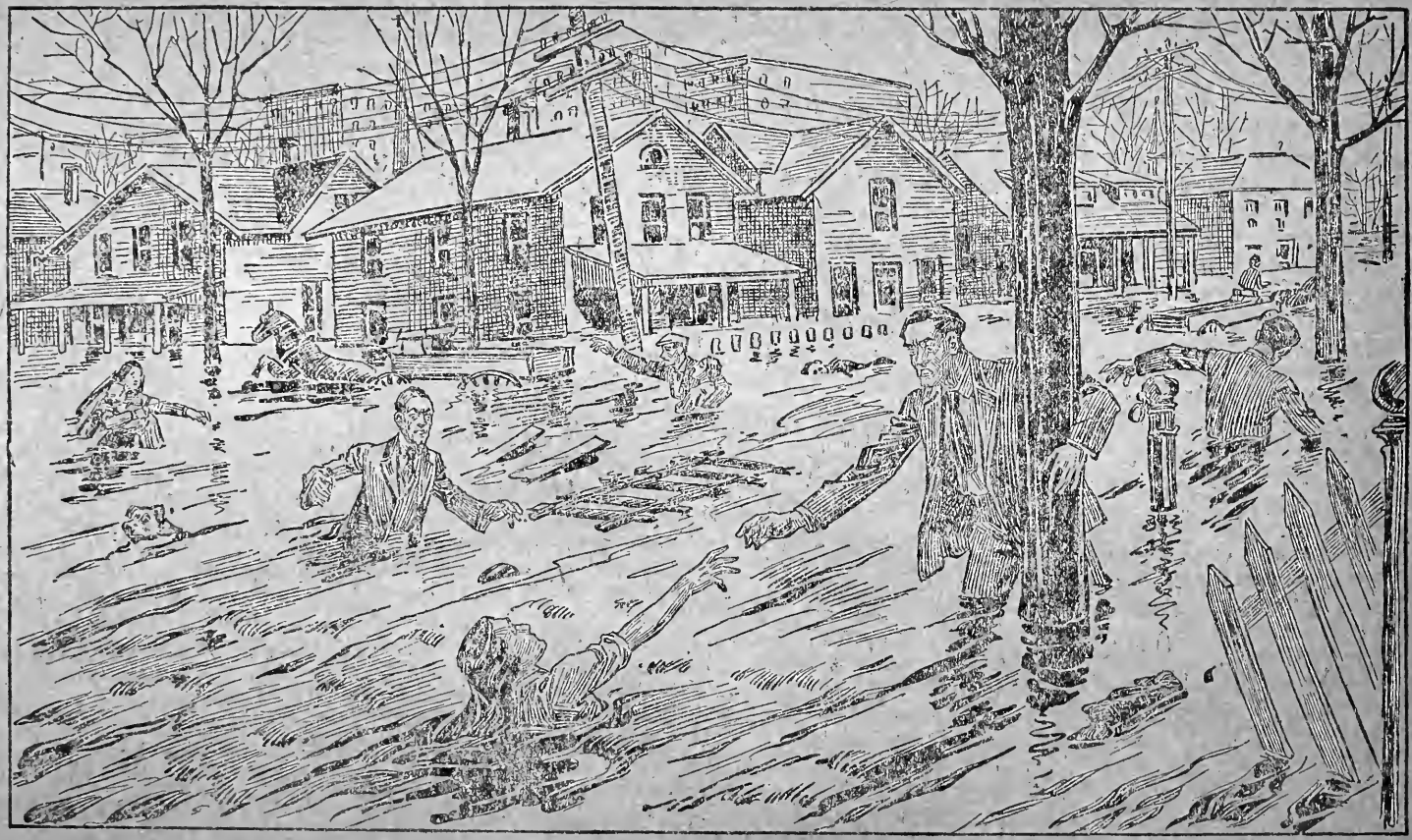


THE CRUEL CURRENT OF WATERS SPED ON, SPARING NEITHER MAN NOR BEAST

"ROCK OF AGES."

A MESSAGE OF SPIRITUAL CONSOLATION

All things have their compensations. Loss, suffering, sorrow, are not without benefits. Tragedies lift us out of ourselves, giving us a renewed vision, stirring our thoughts from the personal and the trivial to the unselfish and the universal.

Now that in 1913, as in memorable years past, a portion of the earth has endured a great natural calamity, we may be privileged to forget our individual welfare (while we care for that of others) and may turn from anxiety about our place in the world, to contemplate our place in the universe.

For the elements again have demonstrated their dominion over us—by a state's-wide sweep of waters across the continent o'erturning our fragile works; and in the light (or more properly the shadow) of that vast event just passed, we are once more face to face with our futility—the realization of man's appalling littleness in the universe.

On every side we see magnitude no end, motion immeasurable—which act and interact in those sublime manifestations of elemental fury called natural phenomena; and by these involved, hemmed in and overhung, we feel at times o'erawed.

For what friend have we in nature?—none! Rather, we seem interlopers merely, existing at sufferance of a truce between enormous enmities. The name of these enmities is legion, for they are many—if we classify and particularize; their sum, in science, is the entire terminology of chemistry and dynamics; but in simple language we may combine their multifarious terms and call them "heat" and "weight." Puny words! yet their shadows stretch into infinity, as do the forces whose prosaic names they are. Unremitting contact with these forces dulls our thought of them, for we attach no splendor of significance to that which we cannot behold, and they are "things that are not seen," in Saint Paul's words; but, to follow out his thought, they are "eternal," and their ceaseless play underlies and animates all our world.

Impelled by heat, his flaming emissary, the sun, shines down and lifts the sea, transfusing it in air. Hence arise clouds, and the winds that waft them. But, ever hampered by an opposition force, these cannot long endure; for weight resists the sun and draws his vapors and their aerial carriers down to all-receiving earth.

The gracious equipoise of these contrary tendencies comprises what scientists call "the opposition of forces" —a balance, a turn-about, an interchange of giving and receiving, under which we have sunshine and rain, seed time and harvest—the normal "orderly" working of

nature that man may take account of, base his predictions on, conform his activities to, and thrive under.

But let a "hitch" occur! a preponderance of one force apparently subdue the other—and there come those terrific cataclysms, those convulsions of the waters and the air, that man has learned to dread.

At some moment before the midnight of the twenty-third of March, at some point in the infinite abyss of space, a zone of heat assumed the vertical, took on the columnar shape—a veritable "pillar of cloud," indeed—towering toward the zenith for perhaps a hundred miles.

Afterward—like any tiny teetering house of blocks piled up by childish hands—it became "topheavy" (ah, the opposing force of weight, which had been apparently subdued, was to accomplish its revenge!), and as a mighty tree might be imagined to totter ere it fell beneath the axe, so this hundred-miles-high disproportioned and unstable shape of air "toppled over," in familiar phrase—it oscillated, convoluted, then collapsed and fell, with a terrific speed drawn down, constrained once more by the irresistible attraction of the earth.

Through the night it rushed (at a breath accumulating an intenser force through condensation of its substance into hail and rain), it burst in weaker air, to hurl itself on undefended land and sea and sweep them with the besom of destruction.

Some puny point, some pitiable doomed place, must

bear the initial impact of the unimpeded hurricane developed now. Was it on Omaha, or in Indiana, or along the unprotected beautiful Miami Valley that the first full fury fell? Wherever may have been the so-called "storm center," that station straightway became stripped of all its reassuring, human and familiar aspects of regard! It now stood stark, revealed in its primeval attitude alone; abandoned to the impulse of the elements, supine as in the age when natural forces worked prodigiously before the time of man.

Since man appeared, these forces have displayed their power no less remorselessly; only in a changed degree they work than when the mountains rose or the glaciers trenched the valleys and the lakes. For nature never shall be tamed, propitiated, or in the least subdued. Still her convulsions and upheavals come, despite our utmost efforts to avert her disregardful rigors, our longing (born of fearfulness and failure) to creep close and have our lot and part in her—aliens denied our home! How often since the primitive human creature cowered before lightning and the storm, made sacrifices unto them and called them gods—how constantly in every age, since then, has man made effort to be reconciled with nature, to lay her milder ministrations to his heart as sent in love! On long delightful afternoons in June the heavens seem to bend in gracious kindness to the thankful earth—made so for man. Spring's great

annual miracle of resurrection makes us fain to see delight and hope inspire the force that brings forth grass and flowers.

But only in rare moments is such feeling possible; for there is sure to interpose the failure unforeseen—some careless movement on the part of natural might—to jostle the painstaking house of cards we rear—man's puny structures and his fragile hopes. The truth's revealed once more: not kind at all, nature is negligent. Our harvests fail because her rains are not attentive; or a storm's upheaval is allowed to trace a tiny track an instant on her front (some flood-and-wind destruction like the one just passed), and cities are o'erturned, lives by hundreds are sacrificed; man is struck down again by nature's thoughtless unregardful might, set to resume the race-long struggle of adapting himself to his environment, proved a pauper that maintains itself on crumbs from the universal store, reduced to wonderment and mourning.

And yet—it is only by being thus brought to a realization that he is at war with natural forces and that these are, by his, minutely matched—this experience alone fits man to lose his awe of nature and reduce it to a proper place and focus in his thought. Alien to nature is man?—what a distinction! Unique, alone, sublime! at his feet the earth, o'er his head the heavens galaxied with stars!—but hold! This fulsome utterance

might be made of all the beasts; these cower from storms and likewise live amid the glories of the natural world. Here is the difference: that man, out of the struggle with the forces that at times completely conquer him, has summoned courage and evolved a faith, has framed a conviction—"substance of things hoped for, evidence of things not seen"—through which alone he triumphs over nature. That conviction is, that there exists a Being from whom mankind and all creation have alike progressed. And as, through his limitations, man may never hope to conquer natural forces, so, through these very limitations, he only can conceive of God that He is love. Aught else is unthinkable. Therefore, let nature smile or frown, both shall mean mercy (which were demonstrable, were our conception adequate)—they shall show forth the justice and the lovingkindness of the Lord.

Hence is born a superhuman energy of hope which has confidence that afflictions are but for a moment. Yet hope does not console; the steadfast heart may triumph in hardship and adversity, but it cannot rise superior to sorrow for dear ones whose lives have been ruthlessly o'erborne. For this there is one resource more: in time of grief to throw oneself on God. He is the refuge and the strength, the "very present help in time of trouble"; and in Him man may find rest for his soul.

This fact was revealed of old. It is the burden of the Hebrew prophets' song. These ancient writers, laboring to express its truth, have set it forth in matchless imagery—in language that has been reverently appropriated and adapted to grace the worship of our time. But, in all times, man—when appalled by the thought of his littleness in the universe and the doubts which this instills, or when o'erwhelmed by grief—has been reminded that God is his refuge and his strength. Through some insistent phrase this inspiration has been kept familiar to every people. Beautifully expressed by the hymnwriter, it is endeared through fond association to our own: "Rock of Ages, cleft for me, let me hide myself in Thee!"

FRED S. MILLER.

VICTIMS OF THE STORM'S VIOLENCE.

Tears are sacred. They are evidence rather of power than of weakness, for they have an eloquence that the greatest orator may not develop. Chiefly this is so because they speak of love, through overwhelming grief and deep and abiding conviction of loss. Thus bereaved, is there an argument wanting to evince the fact that man is more than mortal? Grief, strongly excited, is the peculiar property of man, and whether it be the easily moved tears of wife or mother, or the sternly repressed but moving sympathy of man—let the mourner be respected, almost envied even; he has manifested the strongest proof of unselfishness. When we contemplate grief in the abstract there is a pleasure in such thought—an awful pleasure—for it gratifies us to know that there are those who will weep for us. Some there be who are loth to live, and many are so because they have not one friend to mourn for them—their life is desolate because of that fact.

Again, tears are the sincere expression of the heart and soul. Sorrow or joy, and guilt and innocence too, cause tears. And they make clean the soul. Also they appeal, more nearly than can the most impassioned utterance.

Sometimes they mellow and calm a sad, worn heart; often they relieve, when no other agency can, the contemplation of some fearful catastrophe wherein human beings were as straws in the wind, went down like wheat before the scythe of the reaper, the reaper Death:

There is a reaper whose name is Death,
And with his sickle keen
He reaps the bearded wheat at a breath,
And the flowers that grow between.

Death, the profoundest of all facts, after the conviction that there is a God—Death is the minister that calls forth tears and they have stolen forth o'er battle-fields and over pestilence camps; as well as by the private bier in humble home and in neglected quarters. Also in the waste sands of the desert, or on the far off isles of the sea, when storm-cast mariners have dug the shallow trench and laid to rest the comrade who has borne the hardship and privation of the shipwreck and the storm, the agony for water and the craze for food. Comrades who have proven one another through such trials weep with sincerest pity when they lose one of their number. Nor need they be ashamed of showing grief. Let manhood quench not the flow that is the sincere testimony to his sentiment and affection, that is a sincere evidence that his grief is genuine.

When through the dreary, storm-bound and deserted

streets the melancholy cortege winds, when from the homes where but just now the besom of destruction swept and porch and rooftree crashed, and the life of the loved one was in an instant stricken out, when from these homes is heard steal forth the sobs of mourning and the melancholy signs of woe, in all this sad and trying spectacle after the flood, be sure that tears are doing their healing work, relieving the souls of those who shed them. Through the Miami Valley and in the Indiana towns where the fury of the tempest of the last great cataclysm thundered, there was mourning for the hosts of dead that so pitiably went down. Like a stealthy thief in the night the mighty flood had stolen upon them, unnoted of any, scarcely projected by the scientific watchers of the weather who are looked upon to give timely warning when the elements brood and gather for a storm. Some sleeping in their beds, some gathered in happy entertainments, the wind and rain and lightning fell upon them all and took its toll of lives by hundreds. "Rachel weeping for her children and refusing to be comforted," says the sacred writer. It may be considered certain that, throughout the length and breadth of the storm-stricken area, there are households without number rendered desolate by reason of the frightful visitation which the Lord saw fit to send upon his people.

But sorrows are like the tempests. When afar off

they look black, they are frightful while they last, for a moment of agony, being convulsive reminders of the fact that all flesh is grass and that as a flower of the field man fadeth; but anon the heavens are cleared and smile once more, the dayspring comes, beautiful and peaceful nature resumes her normal sway, and we are enabled to feel that somehow, somewhere there must be an explanation, an alleviation for this great grief that has been sent upon us. It must be remembered, too, that sorrow is like night. Day makes the soul happy, but night brings out the stars and reveals to man the vastness of the universe.

An altered world, an altered sky is presented to the one who has known grief. The whole conception of God's plan and purpose may be enlarged for such an one. For this is the compensation of sorrow: that it draws us out of ourselves, makes us see with an extended, clearer vision and makes us to know things deeper than we had dreamed before our hearts were wakened and attuned to grief. For sorrow is the teacher of the intelligence. From it, as bees draw honey from a dry, unsavory herb, man may extract that which shall enrich his understanding and inspire his soul.

Great events where sorrow also comes are stamped on the consciousness indelibly. And there is a tenderness evolved that makes it seem that cold, impassive nature were somehow allied with man. Almost in a fit

of human rage she seemingly has wrested trees from their roots, the buildings from their foundations and wrought maliciously in the destruction of property. Hence here is the time for man to realize his superiority to nature, his ability to conquer all that she may visit on him, even grief. Man and nature are equal contenders, one to conquer the earth and subdue it, in the Bible's phrase, the other to exalt or depress man seemingly at its pleasure. Over all is the one just God, to whom man, confessing his utter dependence and need, may turn for refuge. And so, redeemed, exalted, purified, man may return from his communion with the Lord and take upon himself a greater responsibility of care for the dependent, the suffering and the outcast.

David was such a man. He felt at first the anger of the Lord and knew his own unworthiness. His well beloved son was ingrate to him and his heart was pierced with woe. But out of his affliction came the Psalms, which have comforted untold thousands of despairing hearts since David's time. Sorrow was the exalter and the redemptor of the writer of the Psalms! So, in a less degree, may each and every one who felt the fury of the elements and had their loved ones taken from them—so may they rise to the occasion of the deeper life which loss and suffering gives entrance to. Privileged to behold and be near unto a vast undertaking of nature, and to be stricken with the sorrow which that

undertaking wrought, the sufferers from the recent storm may be assured that there has nothing happened that has not been ordained by an all-merciful and Higher Power; they may creep close to that Power in spirit and say, "Not my will but Thine be done!"

For the simplest and most certain use of sorrow is to take our thoughts and our sentiments back to the Loving Father. We are not conscious of our need of Him in prosperous days; we rejoice in sunshine and in the former and the latter rains, and pile up wealth, careful of that. But sooner or later the dread summons comes for some loved person who was all the world to us. Then in sorrow are our eyes opened and we know of deeper things than was our privilege before. Then are we conscious of a world beyond our own, a land that we must strive to attain. Then is revealed the possibilities of our own unguessed nature yearning unto God, his creature waken to the knowledge of his love. Sorrow is the interpreter of the all-loving Lord, his minister and his exhorter leading man to love and worship him.

This is revealed in little in every home wherein a death occurs. After the great storm which in this volume is described, it is set forth on a profound and moving scale. Sorrow has revealed this fact to the dwellers in Omaha and its vicinity, in the Miami Valley and its adjacent region; their utter dependence upon

God. In time of destruction such as they have undergone, what other refuge have they to attain? Help—there is none in a catastrophe like this. In the twinkling of an eye it comes, destroys, is gone! No refuge possible but the unseen One who holds them in the hollow of his hand. FRED S. MILLER.

Prayer for Flood Victims

"O Merciful God and Heavenly Father, who has taught us in Thy holy word that Thou dost not willingly afflict or grieve the children of men, give ear to the prayers which we humbly offer to Thee in behalf of our brethren who are suffering from the great water floods. Cause them in their sorrow to experience the comfort of Thy presence and in their bewilderment the guidance of Thy wisdom.

"Stir up, we beseech Thee, the wills of Thy people to minister with generous aid to their present needs, and so overrule in Thy providence this great and sore calamity that we may be brought nearer to Thee and be knit more closely one to another in sympathy and love. All which we humbly ask through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen."

[The above prayer was used in many churches on the Sunday following the flood at the suggestion of Bishop David H. Greer of New York.]

CHAPTER I

DISASTER ON DISASTER

God moves in a mysterious way,
His wonders to perform.
He plants his footsteps in the sea
And rides upon the storm.

Hardly had the public recovered from the first shock of horror at the results of the tornado which laid waste an important section of the city of Omaha on Easter Sunday in the year of grace 1913, when Pelion was piled upon Ossa, horror upon horror, disaster on disaster, by the frightful floods in the valley of the Ohio.

The sympathy of the nation was pouring out in full measure to the stricken city of Nebraska. Only forty-eight hours had elapsed since the "devil cloud" had made its horrifying appearance in the outskirts of Omaha and had passed on, leaving death and desolation in its wake. The President of the United States had just been informed of the full extent of the damage. His condolences and offers of government aid for the sufferers were still fresh from the wire. Committees of relief were being organized, the Red Cross Society had barely begun its helpful work—in fact the fury of the tornado was scarcely spent—when the news of a fresh disaster,

reported from the beautiful Ohio city of Dayton, turned all eyes in that direction, with its undeniable demands for the practical sympathy that should find expression in immediate measures of relief.

What had happened in Ohio of such terrible import as temporarily to divert attention from the scene of death and distress in Nebraska?

What was this fresh horror that thus dwarfed the devastation wrought by the wind's fury? What mighty elemental force had been unloosed for purposes of destruction?

The quaking of the earth, the fury of flames, the giant sweep of the wind—all these have found their victims in American homes, have laid waste American cities and taken heavy toll of human life, but neither earthquake nor fire, nor storm of rushing wind had been the agent of destruction here. Water, let loose from bondage, had done the work.

Of course the telegraph and the telephone soon told their tale of woe. Crippled as the means of communication were in the city where Death had stalked abroad for never-to-be-forgotten hours, working its ruthless will and reaping its greatest harvest, sparing neither age, sex nor condition,—from this center of widespread destruction there came falteringly on a single wire the fatal news of an overwhelming flood that had left mourning and misery in its wake.

A beautiful show-city, renowned for enterprise, for commercial prosperity, for the splendor and attractiveness of its environs, and above all, for its civic pride—Dayton lay prostrate beneath the crushing weight of wicked waters, suffering the fate of the house built upon the sand.

"The floods descended and the rains came, and beat upon that house; and it fell;

"And great was the fall thereof."

Then soon it appeared that the city of Dayton was not alone in its suffering. Unloosed from the bonds that Nature and man had contrived to hold them in check, the maddened waters had demanded more victims and speedily had found them in sad abundance.

A mighty deluge, an avalanche of waters, had suddenly stricken a wonderfully prosperous section of the Middle West, transforming the fertile fields and many thriving cities of Ohio and Indiana into a vast scene of death and desolation.

Fed by the copious rains of a stormy Spring and by the melting snows of the highlands, rivers had burst their banks, dams had ceased to do their duty, reservoirs had scattered their contents broadcast over the land, death-dealing waters were sweeping everything before them.

Human lives by the hundreds had been drowned out; houses had been torn from their foundations and

swept away in the resistless flood, drowning their inmates like rats in a trap; property to the extent of untold millions had been destroyed; scores of thousands were homeless, and danger of death, famine and pestilence threatened on every hand.

Picture the horror of the rising water, as it mounted rapidly foot by foot to heights that threatened to overwhelm all but the largest and most substantial residences. Friends, relatives and neighbors, their houses forced adrift by the rushing element, disappeared from sight. Across the open spaces, through the parks, or down the street, there came the wreckage and the ruins of what had been, but an hour before, happy and prosperous homes. Not one house here and there, but whole blocks of houses, whole neighborhoods, were engulfed by the raging waters and washed away with them.

Oh, the horrors of the long night that followed!

Here a village under water; there a city full of people struggling to keep alive through the hours of darkness, without light, without heat, without water. "Water, water all around, but not a drop to drink." No food—no boats with which to get away or by means of which relief might approach. Only the bare hope of rescue and the barer chance that the waters might speedily recede from the face of the earth. No friendly gleam of lights in neighbor houses, telling of human proximity and power to aid.

And what is that? The shock of a passing house that threatens destruction to all it may encounter in its path. The bodies of horses, oxen, sheep and pigs are washed against the trembling walls and each shock racks the nerves of the sleepless inmates.

And then much more significant wreckage is borne along by the whelming current and glimpsed in horror by those whose whitened faces stare in agony through the upper windows of rocking buildings. Human bodies are borne along, poor torn tabernacles of human beings sacrificed to the topographical situation of their wrecked abodes,—victims perhaps of a state of preventable unpreparedness.

Here floats all that is left of a father, who but yestereve had gathered his children about his knee in a cozy home a mile upstream, and told them the old, old story of the dove sent forth by Noah from the ark of refuge during the first of all floods, and that returned, unable to find a resting place for the sole of its foot, because the water covered the earth.

Yon floating mass with trailing hair and lineaments a whitish blur in the yellow flood was but yesterday a happy, loving mother—until the rushing waters overwhelmed her home as she was going contentedly about domestic duties,—the little ones safe at school, and the breadwinner, beloved of all the little circle, hard at his daily work, with a heart filled with the joy of livin-

in the possession of his loved ones, and brimful of hope for worldly advancement and prosperity in the future.

And there—the bodies of little children, carried hither and yon at the mercy of the dark and turbulent waters—

But the mind refuses to dwell upon the horrors of the scene as it was seen or felt—aye, felt—through the dark hours of the night and in the gray dawn of the morrow, by suffering thousands.

All the harrowing details of death and damage cannot be told within the space of a single volume, but enough to give a graphic idea of the conditions that followed the flood in the city of Dayton, which was the chief sufferer, and elsewhere in the states of Ohio and Indiana, will be found in the chapters that follow. May the lessons they teach be laid to heart and acted upon so that disasters of this kind may be foreseen and prevented wherever humanly possible.

an

Top Picture—Snow Follows Flood at Dayton.
Bottom—Dayton Refugees Awaiting Transportation.

Top Picture—Sole Survivor of a Family at Dayton.
Bottom—When Boats Were at a Premium.

UNROOFED BY THE WIND.

Scene at Murfreesboro, Tenn., After Tornado. Livery Stable in Foreground, with Front and Most of Roof Carried Away.

HEROES OF RESCUE WORK.

Naval Militia Boys Removed Many of Those Marooned in Trees and Housetops and Saved Scores of Lives.

CHAPTER II

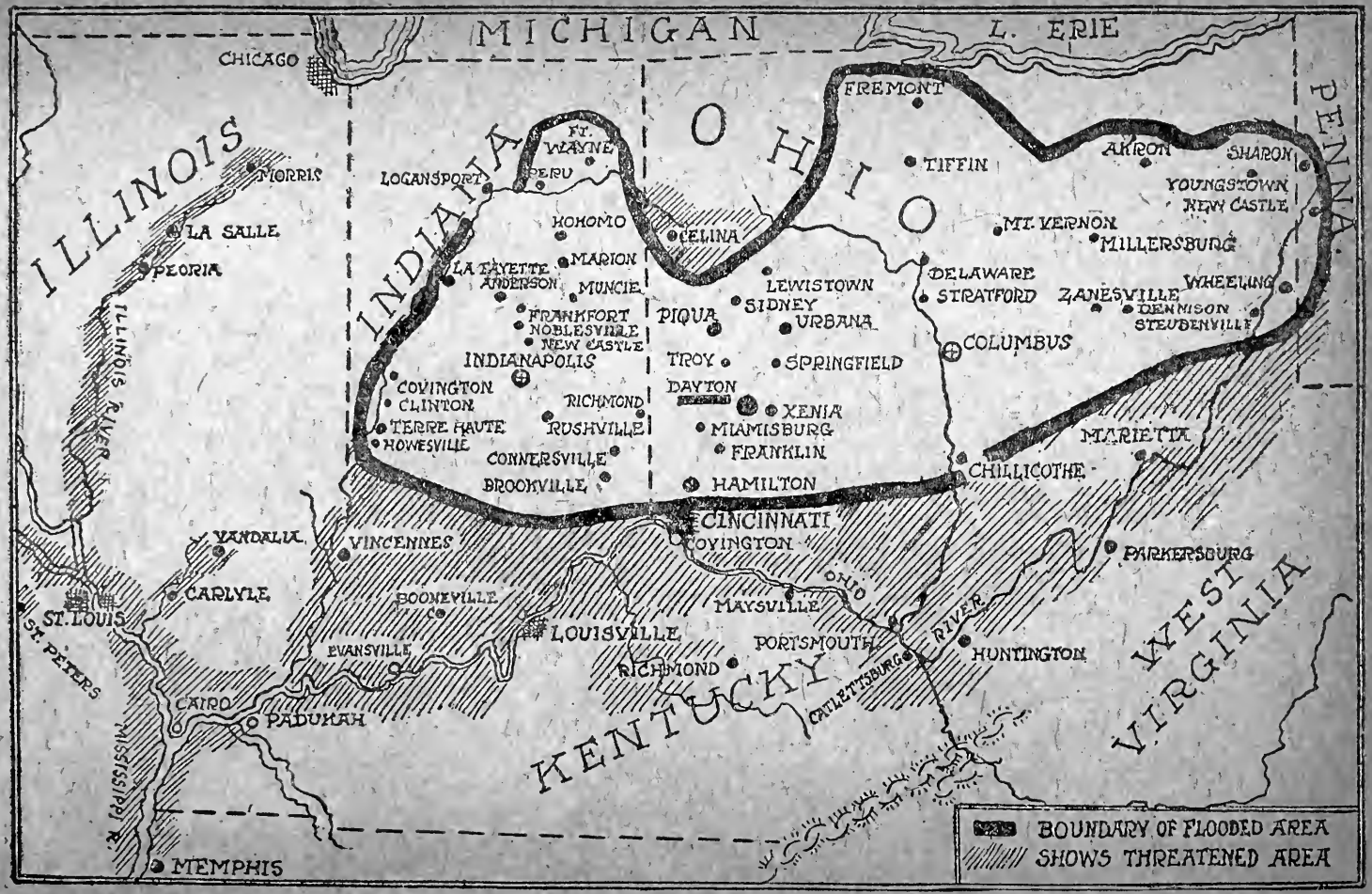
A NATIONAL CALAMITY

First Reports of Disaster Exaggerated by Fear and Horror—What Really Happened—Causes of the Flood—Overflow of Rivers Followed Long-Continued Rain.

A calamity which for the time being could only be measured in death and destruction by the horrors and devastation of war overtook a goodly portion of the states of Ohio and Indiana on Tuesday, March 25, 1913. Floods swept practically all the river towns of the two states and fire added its ravages in some of the flooded cities.

The chief arena of desolation noted in the first reports was the beautiful city of Dayton, Ohio, where several thousand were at first reported dead. Scores of thousands were said to be homeless throughout the state of Ohio and the dead in the entire state, according to early estimates, reached appalling figures; but these estimates were based upon meager and fragmentary reports which later proved to be unfounded.

All through the night that followed, panic-stricken refugees were reported to be fleeing from the lowlands to places of greater comparative safety. The property loss was first estimated to be more than $100,000,000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YOUNGSTOWN
NEW CASTLE
MORRIS
LA SALLE
PEORIA
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CELINA
MT. VERNON
MILLERSBURG
LA FAYETTE
ANDERSON
MARION
MUNCIE
DELAWARE
STRATFORD
LEWISTOWN
SIDNEY
PIQUA
URBANA
ZANESVILLE
WHEELING
DENNISON
STEUBENVILLE
FRANKFORT
NOBLESVILLE
NEW CASTLE
COLUMBUS
INDIANAPOLIS
TROY
SPRINGFIELD
ILLINOIS RIVER
COVINGTON
CLINTON
DAYTON
RICHMOND
XENIA
TERRE HAUTE
RUSHVILLE
MIAMISBURG
HOWESVILLE
FRANKLIN
MARIETTA
CONNERSVILLE
CHILLICOTHE
BROOKVILLE
HAMILTON
CINCINNATI
COVINGTON
VINCENNES
VANDALIA
PARKERSBURG
CARLYLE
OHIO
RIVER
BOONEVILLE
MAYSVILLE
ST. LOUIS
LOUISVILLE
PORTSMOUTH
HUNTINGTON
ST. PETERS
EVANSVILLE
RICHMOND
WEST VIRGINIA
CAIRO
PADUKAH
CATLETTSBURG
KENTUCKY
MISSISSIPPI R.
MEMPHIS
BOUNDARY OF FLOODED AREA
SHOWS THREATENED AREA

and at least $5,000,000 was said to be required immediately to succor the homeless. An appeal to the outside world for aid was promptly issued.

These reports, greeting the eye of the American citizen at his breakfast table on Wednesday morning, March 26, effectually roused him from all semblance of apathy and transformed him into an efficient agency of practical sympathy for the afflicted cities of the great Middle West.

Then there followed a nation-wide quest for the facts of the great flood, and within a few hours the crippled telegraph and telephone services brought messages of confirmation from the state capital of Ohio, as follows:

"The Middle West is today in the grasp of the worst floods ever experienced, following in the wake of the terrific war of the elements which, in the past two days, has swept practically the entire country from Nebraska to Vermont.

"The State of Ohio, from the Maumee to the Ohio, is practically a vast inland lake, and the wildest rumors concerning the fate of the city of Dayton, one of the show places of the state, are afloat.

"A levee restraining the Miami River at Dayton broke during Tuesday morning and soon the city was flooded to a depth of from seven to twelve feet. Many buildings had collapsed when the final link of communication with the outside world—one telephone wire—was lost.

"Up to 6 o'clock last night reliable reports placed the number of drowned there at sixty, but from that hour rumors of greater and almost unbelievable disaster began to trickle in from remote sources.

"A reservoir near Lewiston was reported to have broken and sent further flood upon the stricken city. Another report was to the effect that 5,000 persons had lost their lives and that the city had been engulfed by water to a depth of forty feet.

DEAD BODIES WASHED ABOUT STREETS

"Another rumor, equally lacking confirmation, was that the bodies of people could be seen being washed about in the streets and on the outskirts of Dayton.

"A report received via Anderson, Ind., says that the city of Celina, Ohio, has been engulfed by the breaking of the dam at the Grand Reservoir, and that the loss of life will total more than five hundred. The Grand Reservoir is a great lake, several miles in extent, which was located just to the east of the city, and its waters were held in check by a huge dam. The breaking of this dam would sweep the city just as Johnstown was swept when the dam broke there.

"From Hamilton, Ohio, comes a report that the flood had taken a toll of 1,000 lives.

"From Piqua, Ohio, comes another report that the loss of life in the floods in that city will reach five hundred.

"From Peru, Ind., comes a midnight message that 200 persons have been drowned in the floods there.

"All these reports are entirely without confirmation,

"From every city and town in Ohio with which communication is still possible a tale of death and disaster is reported."

Following these early reports which caused consternation and then awakened sympathy all over the United States, there gradually trickled over the wires from the stricken cities calmer and more accurate statements of actual conditions, but even these proved sad enough.

A large part of the city of Dayton had been overwhelmed by the rushing waters; its business section, residential districts and suburbs were all in the grip of the deluge; scores of men, women and children, though fortunately not hundreds, were drowned; thousands were indeed homeless, and enormous damage had been done.

Death and damage dealing flood conditions also prevailed in the Ohio cities of Cincinnati, Cleveland, Piqua, Hamilton, Delaware, Sidney and other towns and villages, which reported loss of life or great damage to property.

In the state of Indiana similar conditions were reported from Terre Haute, Peru, Shelbyville, Kokomo, Richmond, Marion, Ellwood, Lafayette and other places.

In all these cities and towns the condition of many homeless refugees was reported to be pitiable in the ex-

treme and prompt measures were taken to rush relief to them, including food, clothing and medical supplies, with doctors and nurses to care for the sick and injured.

HOUSES CRUSHED AS BY TIDAL WAVE

The Miami River enters the city of Dayton from the north and runs due south between the residential

districts of North Dayton and Riverdale; then turns sharply west and after running west for a short distance again turns abruptly to the south. An important part

of the city thus lies just inside the loop formed by the sharp bends of the river, into which several small tributaries empty their waters.

The fatal failure of the levees relied on to restrain the river within bounds, apparently occurred on the left side of the river just before it is joined by the Mad River. The water poured over the left wall into Third Street, and fifteen minutes later into Main Street, until the principal streets, which had hitherto never been thought in danger, were under 10 feet of water.

Many of the buildings on the sides of the river had been rendered so insecure by the rising waters that they left their foundations within an hour after the break came. In one district, what had been blocks of thickly populated one and two-story residences, occupied mostly by people of the Latin races, were at the mercy of the flood. Many of these small houses were torn from their foundations and heaps of ruins and shattered lumber were left to tell the tale of the flood's fury.

DAYTON AND ITS LEVEES

The levee at Dayton, Ohio, which is strongly built of gravel, has an average height of about twenty feet through the main part of the town.

It is over twelve feet across the top and about thirty-five feet broad at the base. It is wide enough to allow carriages to go along its top. The levee ceases along some parts of the course of the Miami River.

This river, which cuts the town in two, is approximately 250 feet broad at most of the points within Dayton. Wolf Creek, a tributary on the west, has heretofore caused most of the trouble from floods.

North Dayton has usually been the section most damaged in previous inundations. It lies at a wide bend in the river. Central Dayton is down on a flat. The highest region is occupied by East Dayton. The population is well distributed in detached houses, with no congestion.

A GROWING CITY

Dayton is situated in the valley on the east bank of the Miami River at its junction with Mad River. To the north is a low region through which vast quantities of water might pour down and wreak terrible destruction.

The population of the city is almost 125,000 and it is one of the most prosperous and rapidly growing municipalities in the State. It is adorned with many handsome public buildings, such as the Dayton State Hospital, the court house and a magnificent City Hall. In the suburbs, two miles west of the city, is the National Military Home for Disabled Volunteers of the Civil War, with 640 acres of beautiful ground and large buildings accommodating 6,000 persons.

One of the principal avenues of the city is the Boulevard, which is built on land made from the Miami River

bed. Along this are located many of the largest residences, which would have been destroyed by an unusual disturbance of the waters.

The manufacturing industry, which is important, is facilitated by numerous canals, supplied by reservoirs located outside the city.

Dayton was founded in 1805 and was named in honor of Gen. Jonathan Dayton. It was chartered as a city in 1841 and its growth has been remarkable since that time.

CAUSE OF THE DAYTON FLOOD

During the forty-eight hours ending at 1 o'clock Tuesday morning, March 25, 1913, no less than five and one-half inches of rain, the heaviest on record, fell at Cleveland, Ohio.

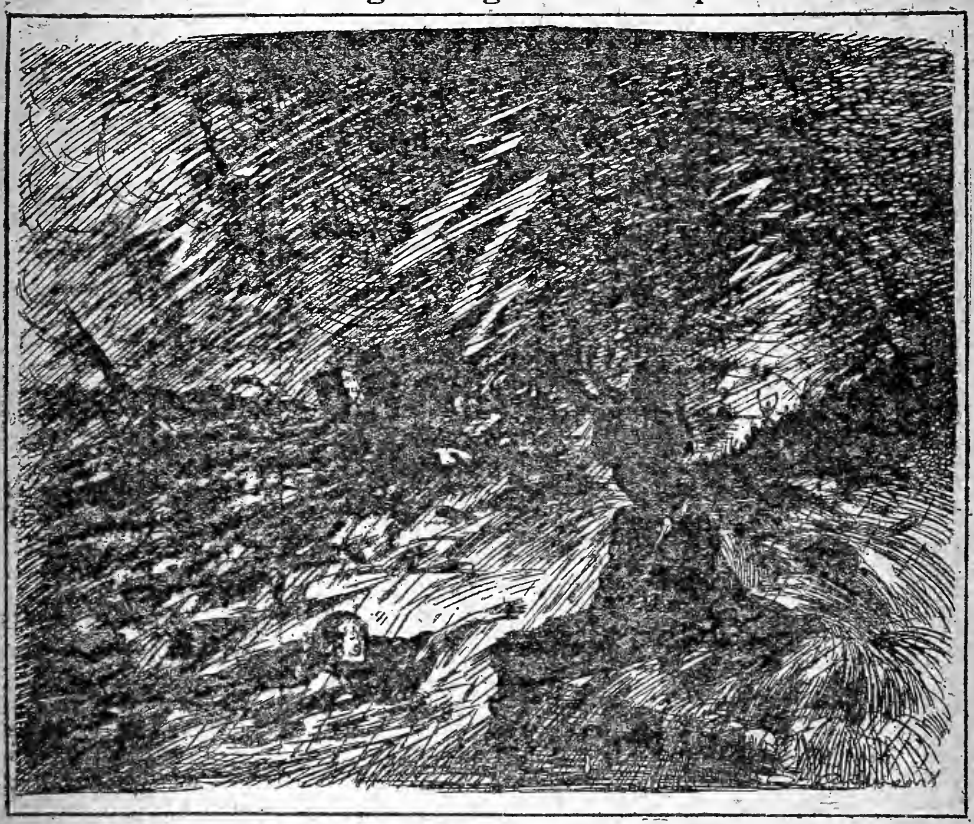
Reports show that this condition prevailed not only at Cleveland, but over a large part of Ohio and Indiana. Hard showers were also reported in Eastern Ohio Tuesday night, and all the rivers and streams in the two states being already swollen, conditions were ripe for the breaking of levees and dams that night.

Four rivers, draining the district of which Dayton, Ohio, is a center, contributed their waters to the torrents that rushed over the doomed cities Tuesday night. These were the Miami, Scioto, Wabash and White Rivers, which drain the districts hereinafter described.

There were two reservoirs on the Miami River above

Dayton. One was known as the Powerhouse reservoir and the other as the Lewiston. The Miami River was flooded to the edge of its banks and levees on Tuesday morning—and levees formed a loop around a consid-

"From Lightning and Tempest—"



—Philadelphia Press.

GOOD LORD, DELIVER US!

erable section of Dayton. Then the waters of the Powerhouse reservoir burst forth on top of the flooded Miami—and a great wave came suddenly tearing along, picking up frame houses like chips in its path, and

crushing brick factories and large buildings as it swept on in a resistless torrent.

CAME AS A SURPRISE

"Daytonians had never dreamed of such a flood menace," said one who resided in the Riverdale section of Dayton for 40 years, on receipt of the surprising news. "The levees were considered by them to be among the strongest and finest in the country, not even those of the Mississippi excepted. It is incredible to me that these substantially built levees should give way.

"It is my impression that the trouble began with an overflow at the intersection of Mad River with the Miami, northeast of the city.

"The levee at that point is but a small one compared with the others, being only eight to 10 feet high, while those adjacent to the Main Street bridge were from 20 to 30 feet in height.

"In the early seventies the water came over the levee at that point and flooded East Monument, St. Clair and East First Streets.

"The surplus water that came from the damming up the Main Street bridge and the overflow from the intersection of the Stillwater and Mad Rivers with the Miami is the only theory that one familiar with the territory can accept."

This old citizen of Dayton had seen the Riverdale

section flooded a number of times from the overflow, but recalls no previous loss of life or serious damage to property during his 40 years' residence there.

A MOUNTAIN OF WATER

"A great mountain of water has been hurled from the clouds upon Ohio," said a graphic writer in the Cleveland Leader on March 27. "A lake has been emptied upon this state.

"The rainfall since Sunday morning must have been not less than six inches, on the average, over the 41,000 odd square miles inside the limits of the commonwealth. That precipitation is indicated by the Cleveland record and other figures from various points.

"Six inches of rain throughout Ohio means about 575,000,000,000 cubic feet of water. That is equivalent to a lake ten feet deep, 80 miles long and 25 miles in average width. It would make a lake 20 feet deep, 40 miles long and 25 miles wide, throughout its length.

"Put this enormous mass of water in another form and it would fill a gigantic standpipe a mile in diameter and about five miles high. It would overflow such an incredible tank towering far above the top of the highest mountain in North America.

"The weight of such a mass of water is monstrous. Roughly speaking—for all statistics of the rainfall in the state must necessarily be general and loosely put

together—the rain which has come down in Ohio in three days means about 18,000,000,000 tons.

"That is more than all the coal mined in America since the first pound was taken from the ground. It makes the weight of all the iron ore ever produced in all the world look small by contrast.

"If the water which has been rained down upon Ohio since the present week began could be put in the balance against the products of the farms of the United States it would outweigh all the grain and all the hay of half a century, at the current rate of production, with all the fruit added.

"Inside the city limits of Cleveland, a little patch of ground compared with the area of the state or even the Cuyahoga valley, enough water has fallen in three days to outweigh, by a wide margin, all the iron ore received at this port in the best year lake shipping ever enjoyed, and all the coal shipped. The rainfall in the city has been about equal to a year's output of the coal mines of Ohio.

"Enough water has fallen inside the municipal limits to make a lake two miles long, a mile wide and ten feet deep. Or it would fill a reservoir fifty feet deep, half a mile wide and only a little less than a mile long.

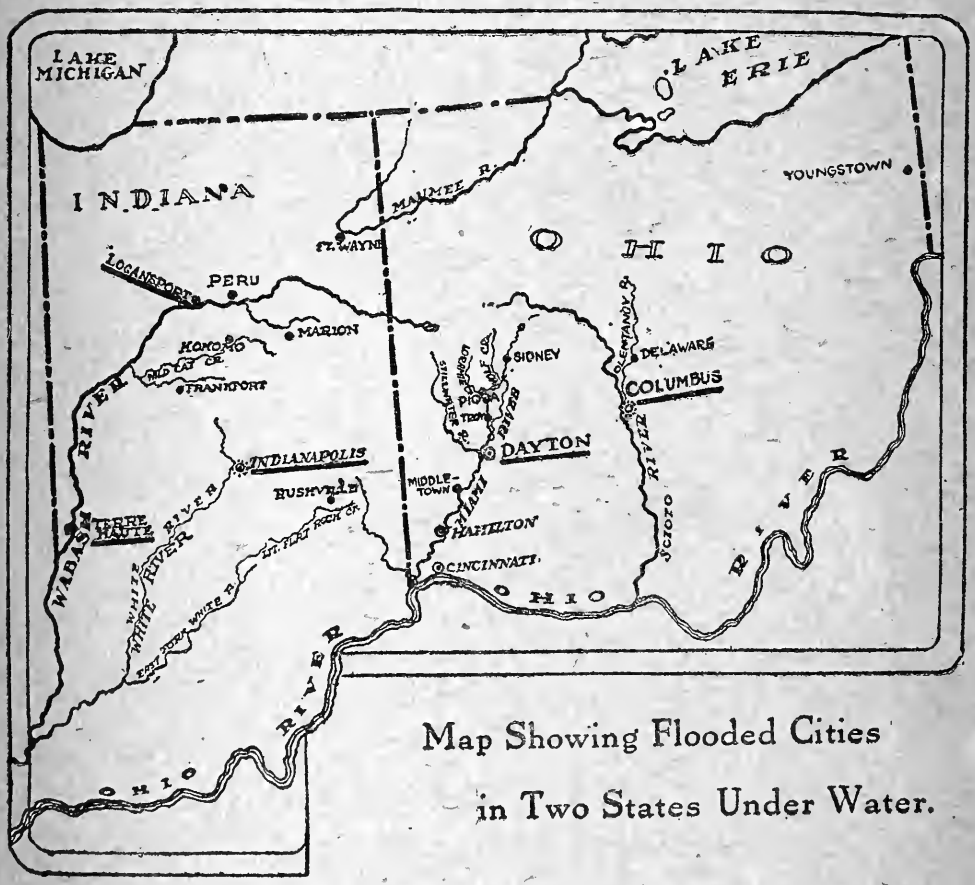
"Human dams, bridges, levees, walls and other structures have had to meet the force of weights and masses so stupendous that ordinary figures lose their sig-

nificance by contrast with the water which has flooded Ohio valleys and lowlands."

RIVERS THAT CAUSED THE DAMAGE

Four rivers caused the principal flood damage in Ohio and Indiana, as follows:

Miami River—It flows through alluvial valleys in



Map Showing Flooded Cities in Two States Under Water.

a raised bed, with a slow current and low banks. Rising on the low watershed in the central district of Ohio, it flows past Hamilton, Dayton, Troy, Piqua, Sidney, Middletown, Miamisburg and other busy cities, all heavy

sufferers from the flood. It empties into the Ohio at the southwest corner of the state, at the Indiana line.

Scioto River—It rises in the central watershed of the state of Ohio and enters the Ohio river at Portsmouth. Columbus, Circleville and Chillicothe are also situated on its banks. Of these cities Columbus was the chief sufferer.

Wabash River—It rises in the Ohio watershed and soon flows into Indiana. Among the many cities on its banks, Peru, sixteen miles east of Logansport, suffered most. Terre Haute, also a heavy sufferer from recent storms and from the tornado that struck it Sunday afternoon, March 23, was hurt by the flood in the river section. Lafayette was partially submerged.

White River—A tributary of the Wabash. The west fork of this river caused the great losses in West Indianapolis.

These southward flowing rivers, situated in a rich, level agricultural country and yet having on their banks cities swarming with profitable manufactories which have grown up because of the splendid transportation, cheap coal and natural gas, were gorged by torrential rains falling in a broad, deforested section of highly cultivated and tilled farm lands, so that the runoff was immediate. Thus the floods came with terrible suddenness, drowning many almost before they had realized their peril.

IN THE MIDST OF THE RAGING TORRENT.

CHAPTER III

A NIGHT OF TERROR

HOURS OF SUFFERING FOR MAROONED VICTIMS—DAYTON ISOLATED FOR A DAY—GOVERNOR COX APPEALS FOR AID—WORK OF RESCUE BEGINS.

A night of suffering and of terror followed the inrushing of the waters throughout the flooded territory. Communication with Dayton was practically cut off Tuesday night and only the most meager reports of actual conditions leaked out from the stricken city.

Hundreds of persons unable to reach their flooded homes took refuge in the larger business buildings, or were marooned there when the waters rose. The city's lighting facilities were cut off; heating plants were put out of commission and all through the long hours of the night, in homes, stores, office buildings and business blocks, there was intense suffering by women and children and the deepest dismay prevailed on every hand.

All prayed for the coming of the dawn and the receding of the waters that hemmed them in on every hand. But when morning came at last, there was little to encourage the weary, hungry, saddened sufferers of the night. The city was a watery waste and prospects of immediate relief seemed slim indeed. The single tele-

phone wire in service brought slight encouragement in the news that the Governor of the state was at work doing his best to get means of rescue and relief into the city. So the long day passed and darkness once more approached with every prospect of a repetition of the terrors of the night before.

GOVERNOR APPEALS TO RED CROSS

The following telegram was sent out by Governor Cox, when daylight on March 26 revealed the full extent of the disaster, to Miss Mabel Boardman, chairman of the Red Cross Society, at Washington:

Mabel T. Boardman, Washington, D. C.

Subsequent advices are that the situation at Dayton, Ohio, is very critical. More than half of the city is under water. The entire downtown district is under water. Piqua, Sidney, Hamilton and Middletown are also sadly in need. The maximum of our military strength is being used in different parts of the state. We have appeals from some parts by telephone that women and children are in the second story of their homes. Boats are being rushed overland by wagon, as railroad traffic in flooded districts is practically suspended. We greatly appreciate your interest and cooperation. (Signed) JAMES M. COX,
Governor.

Miss Boardman promptly replied as follows:

Governor James M. Cox, Columbus, Ohio.

Have wired Red Cross Representative T. J. Edmunds, Cincinnati, to proceed immediately, if possible,

to Dayton. Endeavoring to intercept and inform National Director Bicknell on his way to Omaha, where his services may not be required, as Mr. Lies of Chicago is there now. If you deem advisable issue appeal for funds to state as president of the Red Cross state board. (Signed) MABEL T. BOARDMAN,
Chairman National Relief Board, Washington.

A DEPLORABLE SITUATION

The general situation on Wednesday, March 26, was deplorable. Early estimates of the number of dead resulting from the floods in Ohio and Indiana were far too high, but death had taken toll at many points in both states, and the sufferings and anxieties of the survivors cannot be overestimated. Their deplorable situation was brought home to the people of the United States during the day by telegrams which, while they contained only a modicum of precise fact, gave glimpses of the terrors that prevailed behind the veil of silence and mystery.

DAYTON CALLED A LOST CITY

A message from Dayton Wednesday night said:

"Dayton is as a lost city. It is completely separated from the rest of the world. Its isolation is almost primeval. Only one telephone line is working and that is a private wire between Dayton and Lebanon. The city government is completely imprisoned by water. Nothing has been heard from it since the flood descended

upon the city. It came down so quickly that no one was prepared.

"The only organized relief movement is that which is being conducted by the National Cash Register Company, whose plant is outside of the flood and fire zone.

"The entire force of this organization has been thrown into the relief work. Not a wheel has stirred in the factories of the Register Company since Tuesday morning and every employe is engaged in relief work.

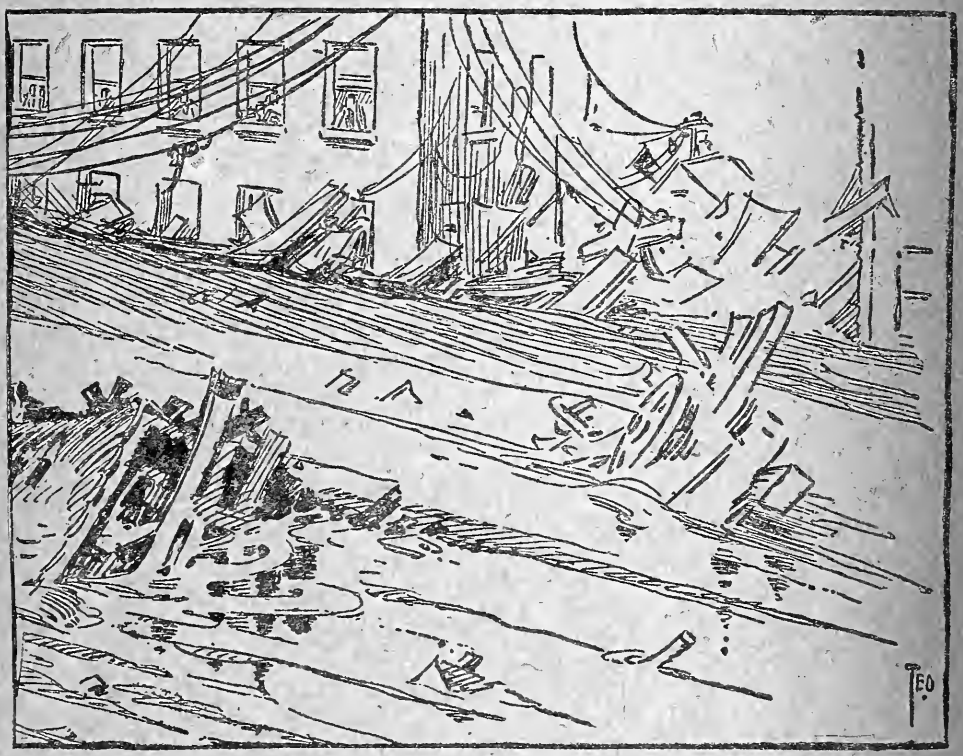
"The huge plant has been turned into a rescue mission and hospital and a thousand persons slept on its straw-covered floors last night. The dining room and rest rooms of women employes were turned into a dining room for refugees. Nearly all available food was bought up by the company for the benefit of flood victims.

PATTERSON RESCUES WOMEN

"Dayton has found new cause for its faith in John H. Patterson, the man who put Dayton on the map. Barefooted, yesterday he waded through the flood to save families from flooded houses. He rowed the boat himself. He is nearly seventy years of age. He has two children—a son, Frederick, and a daughter, Dorothy.

"The son led a rescue party and Miss Dorothy, dressed in old clothes and her hair streaming with water, stood in the rain for hours receiving the refugees as they

were brought in automobiles. The thirty-one machines of the Cash Register Company were pressed into service for rescue work. It was found that Dayton didn't



AN AVALANCHE OF WATER

have enough skiffs, so Patterson forthwith had his carpenters make 100 small boats. They were ready by nightfall."

TELEPHONE GIRLS SOUND ALARM

Frank Brandon, vice president of the Dayton, Lebanon & Cincinnati Railroad, succeeded in establishing a telegraph wire during the day from Dayton to Lebanon.

He said that the situation was appalling and beyond all control.

"According to my advices the situation beggars description," said Mr. Brandon. "What the people need most is boats. The water is high in every street and assistance late this afternoon was simply out of the question. We are rigging up several special trains and will make every effort possible to get into Dayton to-day."

The suburbs of Riverdale, West Side and North Dayton were entirely under water and in the downtown section St. Clair, Emmett and Second streets were flooded.

It remained for two girls to be the chief factors in giving to the world the news of the first day of the flood.

Both were operators but on different lines. One, a telephone operator in the main exchange of Dayton, flashed the last tidings that came out of the stricken city by telephone Wednesday and also gave the news to Governor Cox which enabled the executive to grasp the situation and start the rescue work.

The other was the operator at Phonetown, eight miles north of Dayton, who served as a relay operator for the girl in Dayton. Both stood to their posts as long as the wires held and the young woman at Phonetown, Mrs. Rena White Eakin, worked all during the day and night.

A NIGHT OF TERROR

BY MRS. RENA W. EAKIN

The following account of the Dayton and Miami valley flood was written by Mrs. Rena W. Eakin, telegraph operator, who was rushed to Phoneton, a Dayton suburb, by the Cleveland Press and placed in charge of a special Press wire. The story is printed just as it was clicked over the wire.

Phoneton, O., March 26.—No trains to or from Dayton, tied up all through this territory. Seventy-five to 100 known dead. Great many animals lost. Forty boats patrolling Dayton. St. Elizabeth's hospital and several buildings undermined. Help sent from Phoneton. Going to send militia from any places available.

Troy completely under water. Situation very bad. Much damage to property and loss of life. Much trouble trying to get food for starving. Sending outside aid.

Mayor of Piqua asking aid for both Fletcher and Piqua. One portion of Piqua under water. Telephone badly crippled. Not much suffering there. Not much damage at Tippecanoe City. Loss to surrounding country great. Report from Lima, St. Mary's reservoir not broken.

HOUSES ARE TIED TO TREES.

Situation at Tadmore, viewed from across river, seems to be improving. Several houses secured from being carried away by ropes to nearby trees.

Much debris seen passing. Bridge on National road crossing Great Miami river apparently undamaged, but road from Tadmore to east probably will be impassable for a couple of days.

At Dayton, while being removed from Central Union telephone building to the Y. M. C. A. in rescue boat, Morris Breetenbach had narrow escape. Boat capsized. Breetenbach and two rescued by launch.

G. T. Parsons and E. C. Eidmiller, employes at the American Telephone & Telegraph Co. station at Phoneton, arrived North-side Dayton, trying to get communication with adjutant general's office to request much-needed aid.

Supplies most immediately needed are food, medicine, whiskey and blankets.

The relief committee at North Dayton, now in communication with adjutant general, is arranging to forward requested aid.

Water falling; six feet now. It is expected will be able to get around to different buildings late tonight. Raining.

Twenty-four hours later, on Friday morning, one began to read the stories of eyewitnesses of the scenes in the flood, and the tales of those who had suffered in Dayton, Peru, and other places where the flood had done its worst.

One read of throngs of stricken folk, many of them young children or delicate women, who had been suddenly driven from their homes, without sufficient clothing or adequate supplies, compelled to seek shelter wherever it was available, crowded into business blocks, courthouses, schools and similar refuges, so filled with fear and anxiety for missing relatives that they were unable to sleep or give thought to anything else. And then—thinking of all the trials of those nights and days of terror, of all that cold, hunger, grief and fear had wrought among survivors of the flood—the great heart of the American people was filled with keenest sympathy and another flood set in—a much-needed flood of cash and supplies.

FLOOD EDITION

THE PIQUA DAILY CALL

Vol. 29 PIQUA, OHIO, WEDNESDAY, MARCH 26, 1913. No. 134

Calamity Strikes Piqua; Our City Bowed in Grief

Appalling Loss of Human Life, and Great Destruction of Property.

Thousands Are Homeless

City Under Martial Law---Communications Cut Off with Outside World---Relief Station Established at the Y. M. C. A.

Piqua is today a stricken city; a city bowed down, broken with grief. We have been visited by the greatest calamity in our history. The loss of life that has been suffered from the flood cannot be estimated now.

It is sufficient now to tell that relief measures are being taken. The Business Men's Association, the Y. M. C. A. and citizens generally are co-opeerating with the city and military authorities to bring order out of chaos to rescue those confined in houses still standing in the flooded sections to house and feed the homeless.

The city is practically under martial law. Company C. and Company A, of Coviugton are here and patrolling the city under the the direction of the city authorities.

Last night, we regret to say, there was a beginning of looting and plundering in the south part of the city.

Rigorous measures will be taken by the military and the police to repress and prevent such in the future.

Piqua still is cut off from communication from the outside world. All the telegraph and telephone wires are down. Bridges and tracks are down on both railroads and no trains are running.

The only outside communication possible has been by using a Pennsylvania freight engine to Bradfoad from which point it has been possible to use the telegraph.

All the traction lines still are crippled and unable to run their cars in or out of the city. How soon it may be possible to re-open these lines of communication it is impossible to say.

While greatly crippled the local telephone service has been maintained by both exchanges. The operators have done heroic work day and night ever since the first danger began to threaten.

No mail has been received or sent out of Piqua since Monday. Local deliveries, of course, are impossible.

North and south the C. H. & D. R. R. is crippled. From Sidney to Dayton the washout is practically complete.

The Pennsylvania R. R. bridge was washed out at the east end, and there is no communication across the river. It is understood that much track has been washed out. A line is open to Bradford and westward.

The Y. M. C. A., the Spring street, Favorite Hill Schools, the Presbyterian, Christian, Church of Christ, Grace M. E., St. Marys school hall, and countless homes have been opened freely to the flood sufferers. The Y. M. C. A. has been the center of the relief administration and from which all directions have been issued and to which the sufferers have come.

Provisions can and are being brought from Fletcher and other places east to the sufferers who have reached the hills on the east of the river.

This morning Mayor Kiser placed the fire department at work freeing the most necessary places from water. The electric light plant was first pumped out. Last night the city was in darkness except for gas, oil lamps, and candles. The hospital was fouud needing little attention.

The damage to property is beyond calculation. Over 200 houses at least have been washed away and destroyed. Shawnee is practically wiped out.

CHAPTER IV

EXTENT OF THE DISASTER

STATEMENT BY GOVERNOR COX—DAYTON'S PLIGHT UNPARALLELED—MANY WOMEN AND CHILDREN IN PERIL—FIRST MEASURES OF RELIEF.

That the nation might comprehend the horror of the flood situation in Ohio and realize the urgent necessity for rendering prompt assistance to the stricken cities, Gov. James M. Cox on Wednesday night telegraphed from Columbus the most complete and authoritative summary of conditions that had been made up to that time.

The Governor's statement follows:

"The exact extent of the appalling flood in Ohio is still unknown. Every hour impresses us with the uncertainty of the situation. The waters have assumed such unknown heights in many parts of the State that it will be hardly less than a miracle if villages and towns are not wiped out of existence in the southern and southwestern parts of Ohio. The storm is moving south of east.

"Please give great publicity to an appeal for help. My judgment is that there has never been such a tragedy in the history of the republic.

"Columbus was the center of all activities in behalf

of the stricken cities. Every hour has apparently been filled with an accumulation of drastic circumstances.

EVERY EFFORT MADE TO RELIEVE

"Piteous appeals have been made by men who were surrounded by water and confronted by the approaching conflagration in the city of Dayton. Every human energy has been exerted to give relief, and yet the measure of assistance has been comparatively small. It is my belief, however, that by daylight tomorrow those imprisoned in the business section of Dayton can be relieved.

"The day began by a storm signal from the weather bureau, advising that there would be a dangerous rise in the waters of the Muskingum River. All the towns along its source, including Zanesville and Marietta, were advised. Before noon the situation assumed a critical aspect at Zanesville, and the historic 'Y' bridge was blown up with dynamite.

"The loss of life in Zanesville is uncertain, because all telephone communication ceased at noon. Marietta cannot be reached, but it is safe to assume that the same devastating results at Zanesville were carried on to Marietta.

"A flood situation developed in the Maumee and Sandusky Valleys in northwestern Ohio, but the damage to life and property was nothing compared with that in the south.

DAYTON'S PLIGHT UNPARALLELED

"In many respects the Dayton situation is absolutely without parallel. The city is unable to send to the outside world any accurate idea of the real loss. North Dayton reported a loss of 100 lives. Later precisely the same situation was reported from Riverdale. West Dayton was almost completely under water, and the houses in Edgemont, a residential section, were so deep in the flood that great destruction to life and property certainly ensued there. On the highlands of South Park and East Dayton pockets were developed and people were drowned in apparent elevations where it would seem naturally impossible. The water at Fifth and Brown streets, which is twenty-five or thirty feet above the elevations in the business section, reached ten feet in depth.

"At this time a river wild and turbulent, four miles wide, is sweeping throughout the business section of Dayton, to say nothing of the overflow in the residential sections.

"The Miami River enters Dayton directly north and south, separating North Dayton from Riverdale. It then makes a complete turn west and runs about three-fourths of a mile, then turns directly at right angles to the south. These bends have been the undoing of the city and caused the break in the levee.

"Not until today was it apparent that between

10,000 and 12,000 people are penned up in the business district in buildings, hotels and the Y. M. C. A. building, making it apparent that the flood came so quickly that the business community was unable to reach the hills of the city.

"The city hall is patroled by a number of policemen inside, and it is so situated as to enable the officers to make more or less accurate estimates of the number of people in the business section.

FIRE SWEEPS BUSINESS SECTION

"Fire broke out in the square bounded by St. Clair, Jefferson, Second and Third streets soon after noon. The blaze was noticed first in a drug store. It swept north and destroyed the St. Paul Evangelical Church. The flames then shot to the south through the wholesale district, consuming two large wholesale liquor houses.

"The fire is still burning tonight. We were advised by telephone tonight that people could be seen on the roofs of the buildings in the imperiled square and that they were jumping from one structure to another, keeping safely away from the flames. The water at this time had receded to about five feet in that part of the city.

The appeal came over the telephone to the statehouse that unless boats were sent at once from some part of the stricken district the human loss would be tremendous. This evening it develops that the rescue from this square was complete.

WOMEN AND CHILDREN IN PERIL

"The Beckel building, immediately across the street, was on fire at noon, but the flames were put out. Howard, from the Home Telephone building, reported that the roof was black with people standing guard over their safety point. South of the stricken square is another wholesale section, and it developed that about thirty-five women and children were in several of the buildings.

"About 3 o'clock the flames leaped across Third street and attacked the square bounded by Third, Fourth, Jefferson and St. Clair streets. Lowe Brothers' paint store was destroyed, and another tremendous sacrifice in human life was imminent. Fifteen men in the Home Telephone building succeeded, however, in rescuing the women and children by the aid of a block and tackle, getting them into the Beaver Power building, a fireproof structure, where they are tonight.

"Instructions have been given from Columbus to the militia in the southern part of Dayton to give vigilant eye to the fire district, and if the flames start in the direction of the Home Telephone building and the Beaver Power building to risk passage through the turbulent river which is now running through the city, with boats.

NAVAL RESERVES ON SCENE

"Tomorrow morning at daylight fifty boats will go into the business district of South Park. The naval militia with 100 boats leaves Toledo for Dayton.

"We are unable to get any accurate idea of the loss of life at Hamilton. Both that place and Middletown are so completely isolated that we fear the worst.

"In Columbus the situation has improved. The Scioto is receding. It is feared that when the waters have left the western part of the city a considerable loss of life will be revealed. Almost within sight of the Capitol building three men, two women and a child have been hanging to a tree for over twenty-four hours, and yet the waters are too swift to make their rescue possible.

JAMES M. COX,
"Governor of Ohio."

DEATH LIST PROBLEMATICAL

On Thursday afternoon Governor Cox received a message from George F. Burba, his secretary, over the long distance telephone.

The secretary said:

"If the death list in Dayton is only 1,000 I will consider it a marvelous dispensation. If it is 10,000 I will not be surprised.

[Luckily Mr. Burba's fears in this respect were not realized.—EDITOR.]

"Horrible as this is," he said, "the real suffering will grow worse for days. There are 70,000 homeless."

A message to the Governor later in the day from a marooned telephone operator, the only means thus far found of communicating with Dayton, said the fire in

DAMAGE AT FORT WAYNE, IND.

Sufferers by the Flood Watching Their Ruined Homes, Discussing Ways and Means of Existence and Planning for the Future.

WHAT WILL COME NEXT?

Eye-Witnesses of the Flood's Devastating Fury Saw Houses Swept Away Like Driftwood by the Irresistible Current.

A DAYTON FLOOD VICTIM.
The Man Being Carried in a Canoe Was Paralyzed from the Waist Down Through Standing in Water for Hours.

Refugees Leaving Submerged District for Places of Safety, Carrying with Them Their Sick and, in Some Cases, Their Dead.

the center of the city was virtually under control. The blizzard which started early in the morning, however, still raged.

Mr. Burba, who made a hazardous trip to Dayton, reported that the property loss would amount to $50,000,000.

ON THE THIRD DAY

For three days the tireless executive officer of the State had been doing the work of a dozen men, laboring from daylight to long past midnight to succor the unfortunates of Ohio. His hand guided everything done in the work of rescue, and on Thursday, with the knowledge that this task was for the most part accomplished, he turned his attention to new problems of preventing epidemics, safeguarding life and property and relieving the sufferings of surviving flood victims and the care of the dead.

The hero of the Dayton disaster, John A. Bell, the telephone official who, marooned in a business block, had been keeping Governor Cox informed every half hour of conditions in the stricken city and delivering orders through boatmen who rowed to his window, called the statehouse at daybreak Thursday and greeted the executive with a cheery "Good morning, Governor; the sun is shining in Dayton."

But sunshine gave way to a driving snowstorm later

in the day and the reports coming from Bell were less cheering as the day advanced, until the ominous word from Adjutant-General Wood was received that what were most wanted in the one time Gem City were coffins and food.

USING MOTOR BOATS TO RESCUE FLOOD VICTIMS.

General Wood had been marooned for two days in a fire engine house, but was found and rescued at the request of Governor Cox through the efforts of Bell. When the General was taken to the telephone building

he received orders from the Governor to take charge of the troops as they arrived and make a survey of the conditions in the city. His first report was that the water had fallen to two feet in the business section and that the danger of a widespread conflagration had been avoided by the Governor in having the natural gas supply of the city cut off.

The next report from General Wood was that asking for coffins and food. He said several hundred bodies were in sight and that he feared that the death list was larger than they had thought.

The naval militia were the first National Guardsmen to reach the flooded section of Dayton. They were in boats, which they handled to perfection in reaching imprisoned flood sections, and they did the first real work of rescue.

RELIEF MONEY POURS IN

The appeals for relief met with generous response from all parts of the country, the West as well as the East wiring that funds were being sent. The Governor put the relief work on a systematic basis by appointing a commission, of which, under the rules of the Red Cross, he became chairman.

The members were John H. Patterson, of Dayton; Homer H. Johnson, of Cleveland; Jacob Schmidlapp, of Cincinnati; S. D. Richardson, of Toledo, and George W. Lattimer, of Columbus. Colonel W. M. Wilson, of

the National Guard Pay Department, was named as treasurer and opened headquarters in the Secretary of State's office, where one of the first donations received was $7,500 from the Cleveland Chamber of Commerce.

A telegram from President Wilson announced that the Secretary of War had been directed to proceed to the flood districts to extend every possible assistance to the sufferers.

James T. Jackson, of Cleveland, representing the Red Cross, on March 27, and soon afterward the Governor, issued proclamations announcing the situation in the flood district and urging that money be forwarded as the best means for affording prompt relief because of the crippled conditions of railroads.

BARS ALL SIGHTSEERS

Sightseers of Springfield, who sought to visit Dayton March 27, received a shock. On the first train to the stricken city from Springfield were fifty linemen and three coaches full of people on a sightseeing tour.

The Governor learned of this, and on his orders, when the train reached Dayton, two soldiers were stationed at each car door and none but linemen were permitted to alight. The train was then run back to Springfield with its disappointed passengers.

The Governor then ordered guardsmen at Springfield to let none board trains for Dayton who did not

have a military pass. The purpose in this was to prevent idle visitors draining the limited food resources of Dayton.

Dynamite, gasoline and lime were sent from Springfield as supplies for the sanitation corps ordered there to prevent the spread of disease and the feared epidemic. The dynamite was used to blow up dangerous obstructions, the gasoline to burn rubbish and the lime for disinfecting purposes.

PATTERSON'S SPLENDID WORK

Phoneton, O., (by telephone from Dayton), March 27.—Rescue work efficiently managed and in which John H. Patterson, president of the National Cash Register Company, was a leading spirit, was begun to-day. Missing members of families were restored to their loved ones through human clearing houses established at several points on the fringe of the flood district. Great ledgers, filled with names, and presided over by volunteer bank clerks, were at the disposal of persons seeking missing kinsmen.

Dayton is devastated. No one can even estimate whether beneath the yellow sea that is seething through the city may sleep 1,000 drowned or 100.

No one can picture the situation. Dayton is a marine inferno. Fires lighted the sky all night and early to-day, illuminate the rushing waters, and the

swish of rain and swirl of currents sounded a sibilant requiem for the unknown and the uncounted dead.

Think of 50,000 persons jammed in the upper floors of their homes, no gas, no fresh water, no light, no heat, no food!

President Patterson of the National Cash Register Company has 150 carpenters building boats. He himself has saved numbers of lives.

An appeal for help was sent out by Mr. Patterson, who, after a conference with the local and relief committees, issued the following:

"An awful catastrophe has overtaken Dayton. The levee has broken. The center of Dayton and the residence districts from the fair grounds hill to the high ground north of the city, are under water. Some of our buildings are used for shelter for the homeless and sick on the South Side. Food is needed.

"Potatoes, rice, beans, vegetables, meats and bread and any other edibles that will sustain life will be acceptable.

"We have cooking arrangements for several thousand. We are sending trucks to near-by towns, but ask that you haul to us, as far as possible."

CHAPTER V

AS THE WATER SUBSIDED

FOURTH DAY OF THE FLOOD—WATERS RECEDE AND RESCUERS ARE BUSY—MARTIAL LAW ENFORCED AND THE SITUATION SURVEYED.

On Friday, March 28, the fourth day of the flood, the waters were gradually subsiding and the work of rescue and relief proceeded apace.

A score of motor boats, besides live-saving boats, were in the flooded district and by night it was hoped relief would be extended to all those still alive. No effort was being made to take out any bodies, the first care being to provide help for the living.

The boats began to return early from the nearer sections, each depositing its load of from fifteen to twenty survivors. Most of them were so weak from deprivation and suffering as to be scarcely able to move. By 8 o'clock several hundred had been taken to the Cash Register hospital on stretchers from the south side of the river.

The food situation was much brighter. Trucks sent from the Cash Register company, manned by men with military orders to confiscate potatoes and food from the

farmers, brought back a good supply of vegetables, and several relief trains reached the city with supplies.

The rescue work also had taken on a semblance of system, and all the streets from which the flood had receded were patrolled by militia. The people also were urged to get back to their houses whenever possible.

"Beware of thieves and burglars," said an official bulletin given wide circulation. "Don't leave your houses without protection. It was thieves who scared you about the reservoir and natural gas explosion. The natural gas has been turned off and there is no danger of explosions.'

Sixty Catholic sisters at the Academy of the Sisters of Notre Dame and eighteen persons for whom they had provided refuge were found by the Louisville life-saving crew to have been entirely without food or water since Tuesday.

There were several cases of illness, and their suffering had been intense. The live-savers left a supply of bread and water and planned to give further help.

The Louisville men also took relief to several hundred families in the low district in the vicinity of Ludlow and Franklin streets. Here the water had reached the roofs of all two-story buildings. Only a few of those in the most desperate condition were brought out, the first move being to leave bread and water in as many places as possible.

There had been little hope there would be survivors in this district, and the fact that there proved to be few deaths brought hope that the death loss would be much lower than was expected.

STRICT MARTIAL LAW ENFORCED

Facing the tremendous task of caring for its ever-increasing army of refugees and recovering its dead, Dayton began its fourth day of flood under strict martial law. With headquarters at Bamberger park, Col. Zimmerman of the Fifth regiment, Ohio National Guard, initiated plans for the organization to protect the city during the ensuing weeks of reconstruction.

Militia companies from all parts of the state reached Dayton during the early morning hours, and by noon every accessible section was under strict guard. Members of the State Board of Health, bringing carloads of lime and other disinfectants, also arrived during the day and began the work of warding off the ever-increasing menace of disease.

SURVEY OF THE SITUATION

On Friday evening it was possible to take a calmer view of the situation and the following facts were arrived at:

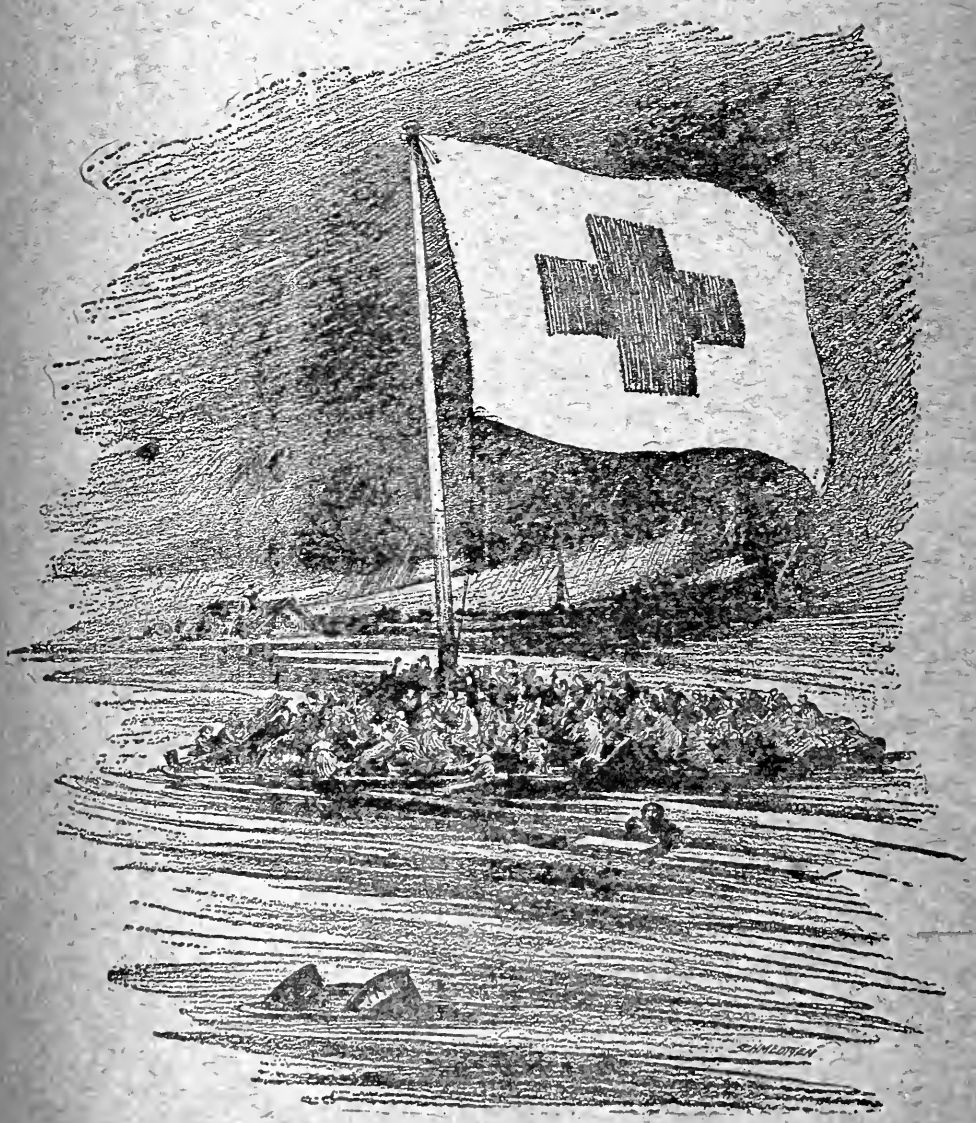
1. Previous estimates of the number drowned had been greatly exaggerated.

2. The property loss from fire was not to exceed $1,500,000.

3. The damage caused to mercantile houses, factories and residences would run anywhere from $15,000,000 to $20,000,000.

4. The water had receded from the business section

SANCTUARY.



—Chicago Record-Herald.

of the city and from a large portion of the residence district.

5. Residents in portions still inundated were being taken to sections not affected by the flood.

6. There was no lack of food.

7. The telephone systems were being restored.

8. There was much suffering from cold. All available fuel had been appropriated and there was prospect of immediate relief.

9. So far there had been no epidemic of sickness.

HIGH POINT OF THE FLOOD

Touring the business sections, officials found the high stage of the flood was nine feet at the corner of Third and Main streets, which is in the very heart of the city. The onrushing water flooded the first floor of every store in the business district. This constituted the chief financial loss. The lower floor of the Steele high school was leveled and the Leonard building on Main street was undermined so that it collapsed. Many houses were swept away in Riverdale, West Dayton, North Dayton and Edgemont.

SHELTER FOR 7,000 PERSONS

The following buildings withstood the flood, furnishing shelter to about 7,000 persons who were marooned in them from Tuesday until Thursday: Conover building, **Kuhns building,** The Arcade, two Cappel buildings,

Calahan Bank building, Schwind building, Commercial building, Mendenhal building, Rice-Kunler building, Riebold building and United Brethren Publishing Company's building.

None of the public buildings nor churches were destroyed.

The fire loss was reported limited to the destruction of the Dayton Gas Light and Coke Company's plant; the row of two and three-story buildings on both sides of Third street from Jefferson street to St. Clair avenue; the Troy-Pearl laundry plant and two apartment house fires on the West Side.

A daring robbery was thwarted early in the day when the police arrested a man who was escaping from the city with a satchel containing $50,000 in diamonds and jewelry which he had stolen from downtown jewelry stores.

BANK NOT TOUCHED BY FIRE

The Fourth National Bank building, which was reported several times to have been destroyed by fire, was untouched by the flames, although a building immediately adjoining was burned.

The newspaper offices, the News and Herald and Journal buildings were found to be safe, but none was issuing papers.

Money was of no use in Dayton for the time being. Every facility was free to every one without cost.

"DAYTON IS NOT CRUSHED"

President G. B. Smith of the chamber of commerce said:

"We do not want the world to think that Dayton is unable to recover from the effects of the disaster. We are going to show it that we are capable of coping with the situation with entire efficiency. Dayton is not crushed."

DREAMING OF A NEW DAYTON

Ben Hecht, staff correspondent of the Chicago Journal at the scene of the Dayton flood, telegraphed from Miami City, a suburb of Dayton, March 29, as follows:

"Unless the thousands still imprisoned in their attics in North Dayton are not rescued the toll of the flood and fire that has wiped out the city will not be large.

"Three-fourths of the city is high and dry. The streets are streaming with people. The weather is bright and warm. The skies seem to be smiling and the people are taking heart. The apparently impossible tasks of rebuilding the city, of finding homes for the sorrowing refugees, starting again to live as they did before the flood, occupied Dayton today.

" 'We will build again,' they say. Even the refugees who have nothing except the clothes they wore away

are dreaming today of a new Dayton. The tales of hardships, rescues and deaths are passing from mouth to mouth. All the living are heroes.

RESCUED GIRL A HEROINE

"In the Van Cleveland school a young woman, tall and squarely built, has taken charge of the foreign refugees. Her name is Lisa Matiny. She was saved from her home on South Main street. Her mother and two sisters are among the dead. When the rescue boat came to free her from the room to which they had fled, Lisa Matiny put her mother and two sisters in the boat. She remained in the room and waited.

"The flood rose higher until the water reached her waist. 'Good-by,' she called, and the mother and sisters were carried away. They were never heard of again. Lisa clung to a door that had been washed loose. She was picked up on the shore. Her family lies in the morgue at the National Cash Register Company.

"There is another woman in the Van Cleveland school who has lost her senses. She is old and can say nothing except, 'Where is Billy?' Billy is her son. This morning a half clothed boy was carried into the room where the old woman was. She grabbed him in her arms and cried 'Billy!' But it wasn't Bill. The boy had lost his mother, whose name is Sarah Calkin. He fell asleep in the old woman's arms, and both seemed happy.

"Two children were born in the Longfellow school, where many refugees are being fed and housed. The mothers was rescued from Second street. The names of the children are Jennie Williams and Harriet Gordon. One of the babies died.

WIRE MEN STICK TO POSTS

"Among the heroes of the flood are the telegraph operators. They have sent tens of thousands of messages and have stuck to their jobs day and night. Some have dropped from exhaustion.

"The Western Union men, who were the first strangers to break into the city, haven't slept since Tuesday. 'Safe,' 'safe,' the monotonous words of rescue and death have jammed the wires since the first one was opened.

MARTIAL LAW IS RAISED

"The martial law declared two days ago has been raised for this afternoon to permit refugees to seek their homes. Creeping and splashing through the mud are countless people on their way home. Home often means a half house, torn and scattered across the entire street. But it is home anyway, and the men grabbed spades to shovel out the mud while women try to cook their meal. Sometimes it isn't a half house; only a mud hole greets the refugees.

"Howard Lowrey found a mud hole on lower River street. He stood knee deep in the water watching the people pass. A woman carrying a child came trudging

along. She was his wife, and it didn't matter that the home was swept away. The family reunited, laughed and cried and started off arm in arm for a refugee home.

"There are thousands of similar scenes. They would fill a volume that would bring tears and smiles and tell a story such as the world has never heard.

"Families are being reunited in the hospital schools, in the refuge homes and in the morgues today. The residence districts, no longer covered with water, are being re-entered and the houses filled.

DEMOLISHED BUILDINGS ON EVERY SIDE

"The streets of Dayton are again filled with people. Where two days ago thousands screamed their terror and grief groups of men and women walk today.

"The flood has gone out of the city proper. Along the streets of the business and residence sections now the demolished buildings lie like pieces of kindling.

"Some of the steel structures have been twisted out of shape, others are overthrown and scrattered along the squares. Mud lies two feet thick on the floors.

"In the teller's cage of the First National Bank building a horse was found. Another animal was discovered on the second floor of a department store. There are thousands of similar freaks.

VOLUNTEERS WORK DAY AND NIGHT

"A few blocks removed from the downtown district the huge corps of volunteers is working day and night.

"Free-lunch signs are everywhere and no one is permitted to ask money for food or clothing. Hundreds of automobiles have been provided by citizens. They are used to carry the sufferers to places of refuge."

SECRETARY GARRISON'S REPORT

On March 29, Secretary of War Garrison, who had visited Dayton, at President Wilson's request, to supervise the work of Government relief there, described the situation in a telegram to the President as follows:

"The flood has subsided so that they have communication with all parts of the city, no one being now in any position of peril or without food or shelter. The National Cash Register plant has been turned into a supply depot and lodging place for those who have no other place.

"Surgeon-General Blue and some of his officers are here, as are also some naval surgeons. We are all working in concert. The governor, the mayor, the local committees, and the citizens have all expressed much gratitude at the action of the national government, and have welcomed us warmly, all of them stating that the fact that a direct representative has been sent to their community has been of the greatest benefit to the morale of the city.

"I find a competent force is already organized to clean up the streets, remove the debris, and do general work of that description, and they have agreed to work under the direction of the army surgeon I leave in charge of sanitation.

"The National Guard have their adjutant-general, George H. Wood, here in command of the military situation, and he has cordially offered to co-operate in every way with our work of sanitation.

"I think the situation here is very satisfactory, and that this community will find itself in a reassured position within a short time and facing then only the problem of repair, restoration, and rehabilitation.

"I will go back to Cincinnati tonight to get in touch with matters left unfinished there, and will go to Columbus at the earliest moment. Governor Cox tells me he thinks matters are in a satisfactory condition at Columbus, that he has ample immediate supply of medicines and other necessities, and that much of each is on the way. The weather is very fine, and there does not seem to be any cause for apprehension of further floods in the vicinity of Dayton."

A similar report might have been made of the conditions on Saturday, March 29, in other cities that had suffered loss of life and damage to property.

AS THE WATER SUBSIDED

Thus ended the week of the great flood, with relief systematized and the work of repairing damage begun. From that day on the efforts of all the people of Ohio and Indiana were bent on restoring former conditions of activity and prosperity, with the aid and goodwill of the whole United States.

"The West"

—Philadelphia Inquirer

IS 1913 UNLUCKY?

FATAL SHOWING OF THE RECORD FOR THE FIRST QUARTER OF THE YEAR

Jan. 2—Huntington, Va.; train falls through bridge, 7 killed.

Jan. 3—Chesapeake bay; steamer cut in two, 14 die.

Jan. 6—San Diego, Cal.; immigration launch sinks, 10 die.

Jan. 13—Casas Grandes, Mex.; city attacked by rebels, 46 killed.

Jan. 13—Oporto, Portugal; steamer Veronese sinks, 43 drown.

Feb. 7—Bluefields, Nicaragua; train wreck, 19 drown.

Feb. 12—Mexico City; battles in city, 1,000 killed.

Feb. 23—Mexico City; President Madero assassinated.

March 1—Omaha, Neb.; hotel fire, 10 killed.

March 7—Baltimore, Md.; dynamite boat explodes, 50 killed.

March 13—New Orleans, La.; storm, 13 killed.

March 19—Saloniki; King George of Greece assassinated.

March 20—Nationwide storm kills 70.

March 23—Omaha, Neb.; cyclone, approximately 200 killed.

March 25—Ohio and Indiana; widespread floods, several hundred deaths and tremendous destruction of property.

CHAPTER VI

A BRIEF DIARY OF THE FLOOD

An Account of Flood Conditions in General Told Day by Day.

MONDAY, MARCH 24

Rising water reported throughout the Ohio Valley. Partial floods prevail and fears of damage entertained in many river towns. Rains heavy and continuous.

TUESDAY, MARCH 25

Levees give way at many points. Floods sweep Ohio and Indiana, isolating entire cities, causing enormous damage and great loss of life, and devastating large sections of country in all parts of both states. Floods also reported in Pennsylvania, Northern New York, Missouri, Illinois and Kentucky. Dayton, Ohio, reports large loss of life. Governor Cox of Ohio declares the disaster greatest in the state's history. Many thousands homeless in Indiana and Ohio. Troops called out in several cities of both states.

Miami River Valley, Ohio, towns flooded include Dayton, Piqua, Troy, Sidney, Carrollton, Miamisburg, Hamilton and a dozen smaller towns.

Mad River Valley, West Liberty and Springfield flooded. Scioto River overflowed, inundating part of Columbus and many small communities.

Olentangy River floods Delaware, Ohio; Lima flooded by Ottawa River and Zanesville by the Muskingum.

Indianapolis flooded by White River; Peru, Ind., inundated and isolated, with immense damage reported. Fort Wayne, Logansport, Richmond and Shelbyville flooded. Marion, Ellwood, Broad Ripple, Lafayette, Rushville, Muncie and Noblesville reported partly under water. Terre Haute residence section flooded by Wabash River and Kokomo, Ind., by Wild Cat Creek.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 26

Indiana flood reports grow in horror. Governor Ralston issues appeal for aid. Indianapolis and Peru suffer most of Indiana cities. President Wilson appeals to the nation to help flood sufferers in Ohio and Indiana. Early reports from Dayton indicated great loss of life. Thousands marooned in larger buildngs of flooded cities. Columbus, Cincinnati, Sidney, Tiffin, Delaware and other Ohio cities report many dead and damage immense. Flood at its height in both states. Generous response by people of the United States to appeals for aid, and relief trains started to Dayton and other flooded cities.

THURSDAY, MARCH 27

Later reports from Dayton, Ohio, indicate number of dead less than 200. Early reports of loss of life

found to have been exaggerated by excitement and fear of sufferers, but damage total in all flooded cities enormous and sufferings of homeless victims demand prompt relief. The United States Government sends medical officers and supplies to Dayton. Contributions to relief funds and supplies of food and clothing begin to pour into the stricken cities. Many refugees rescued by boats as waters begin to recede. First attention of relief parties given to the living. Many thrilling escapes from flood dangers. Martial law proclaimed in several cities. President Wilson reported ready to visit flooded territory.

FRIDAY, MARCH 28

Estimates of deaths in Dayton and other cities drop as flood recedes. Homeless in Dayton reported at 70,000 and property loss $50,000,000. Hundreds rescued as the falling of waters tells tragedy's extent. Probabilities of a pestilence feared in many cities. River stage at Cincinnati 64 feet, nearing the record stage, and city faces worst flood in its history. Peru, Ind., and West Indianapolis under quarantine. Shawneetown and Cairo, Ill., threatened with flood. Twenty-four bodies recovered from flood at Peru, Ind. Martial law enforced by state troops at Dayton and curiosity-seekers forbidden to enter the city. Dayton authorities appeal for nurses, medicines, clothing and fuel. Communication with flooded cities re-established.

SATURDAY, MARCH 29

Bodies of 121 victims recovered at Dayton. Work of rebuilding shattered homes begins. Secretary of War Garrison at Dayton and reports to President Wilson on situation there, then left to inspect conditions and superintend the Government relief work at Cincinnati and Columbus. Lack of water supply causes suffering and sickness in Dayton. Thousands of homes submerged in Cincinnati and 15,000 persons homeless; river stage 67 feet. Homeless in all stricken cities being cared for by relief committees. Government health officer left at Dayton to prevent pestilence. Waters continue to recede at Dayton, but rising from Cincinnati to Cairo. Illinois troops ordered to Shawneetown. Dayton organizes force to clean up city.

SUNDAY, MARCH 30

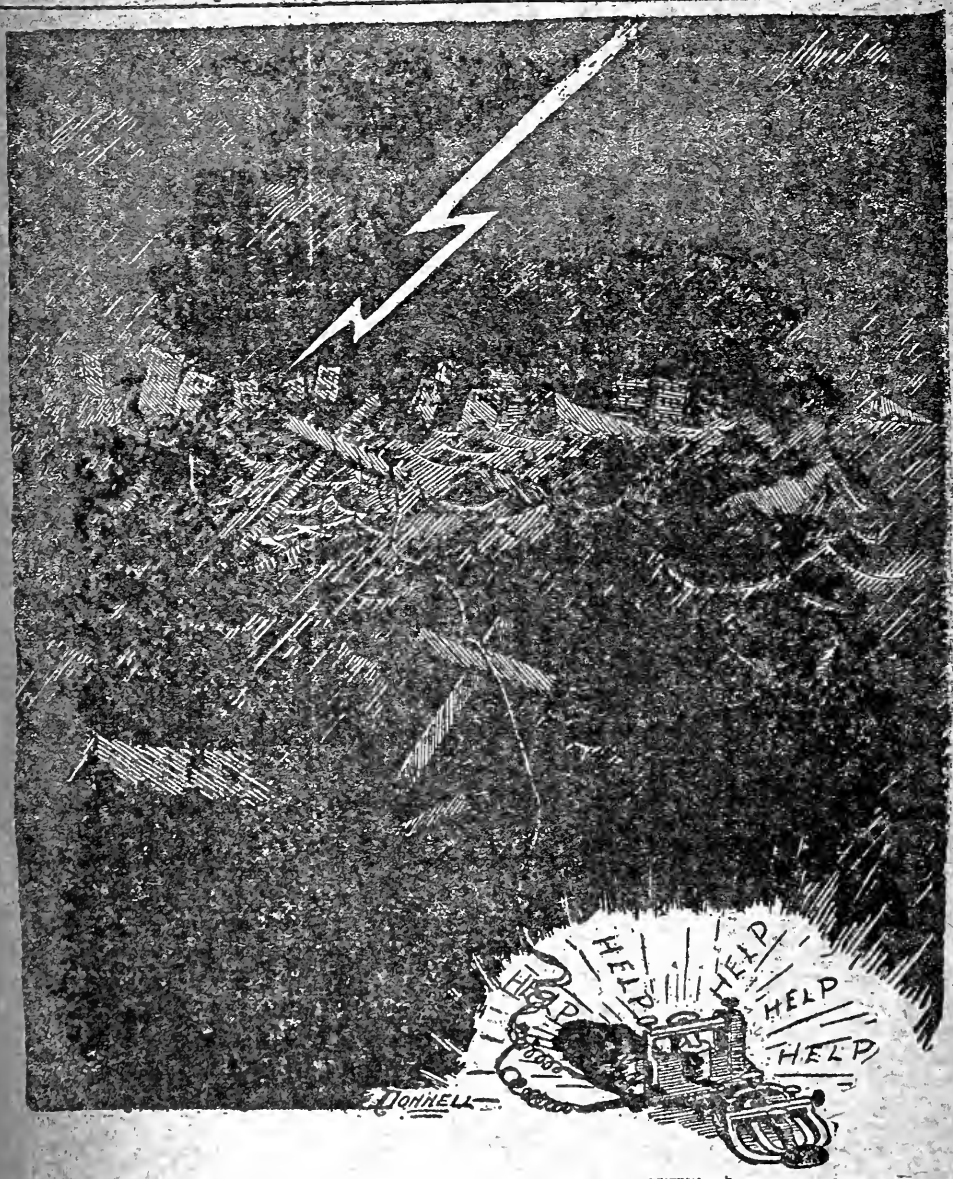
Dayton reports relief required for 40,000 homeless; 15,000 houses in city require rebuilding. Waterworks open but pressure feeble owing to open pipes in wrecked houses. Columbus and other cities faced by problem of food supply. Cairo, Ill., threatened with flood; river stage 51.5 feet. Chicago regiment of Illinois National Guard ordered to Cairo to fight new floods. Many churches in the United States take up special collections to aid flood sufferers. People of Columbus, Dayton, Zanesville and other stricken cities

cleaning up after receding waters. Columbus death list reported at 64; Dayton, 150; Hamilton, 50; Miamisburg, 50; Tiffin, 18; Chillicothe, 18; Middletown, 14; Fremont, 14; Piqua, 13; Harrison, 12; Zanesville, 10; Peru, Ind., 24; Brookville, 16; Fort Wayne, 6; Terre Haute, 4.

MONDAY, MARCH 31

Relief systematized in Dayton. Martial law to prevail during clean-up. Citizens' relief committee, with John H. Patterson, president of the National Cash Register Company, as chairman, in charge of relief work. An emergency form of government to prevail during the period of reconstruction and rehabilitation. Other stricken cities in Ohio and Indiana recovering from disaster and repairing damages. Danger of flood in Cairo and other Illinois towns grows, but levees hold.

The "Call."



—St. Louis Globe-Democrat

CHAPTER VII

STORIES OF EYEWITNESSES

Exciting Experiences of Travelers Through the Flooded Districts of Ohio and Indiana

Stories straight from the death-dealt flood fields of Ohio and Indiana were told by arrivals in Chicago on Wednesday, March 26, who came through the inundated territory on the last of the crawling, halted trains able to get over water weakened rails hours behind schedule. From the car windows these passengers saw the water eating its way over the land, the bands of despairing refugees and hundreds of wrecked homes. They experienced an unwelcome thrill when trains on which they rode wormed their way over swaying bridges and were able to help some of the sufferers.

REACH FLOODED DISTRICT

First eyewitnesses of the flooded region reached Chicago at 7:45 a. m., via the Baltimore & Ohio railroad eleven hours late. They had seen residents driven from their homes, swept along the flood in boats and other craft, and houses, barns and bridges demolished.

"We reached the flooded district late yesterday afternoon," said W. H. Chown of South Wales on his way

to San Francisco. "We passed Youngstown, which was full of water, and then brought up suddenly in front of a treacherous bridge spanning a river which had raced from its banks and covered the surrounding country for miles. There we stuck for five hours. The supports at the end of the bridge appeared very shaky and there was a debate as to whether to attempt a crossing. When we did so we went slowly and could feel the bridge swaying and creaking beneath us.

"For miles and miles in many places we saw nothing but water. Farm houses stood partly submerged and in many places we saw people crawling out of windows into boats, carrying clothing and bundles with them. Every stream seemed to be racing at top speed and most of them had left their channels completely."

SEEN BY PENNSYLVANIA PATRONS

Experiences of and sights observed by passengers on Pennsylvania railroad trains were told when they arrived on a combination train made up of three of the fastest trains on that system. The train, which was composed of parts of the twenty hour New York-Chicago special, the eastern flyer and the fast mail trains, came into the union station at 10:45 a. m. Wednesday, many hours behind schedule.

Perry Hollister and Roy Taylor of Ravenna, O., saw more of the flooded conditions than the majority of the others upon the train.

"When we boarded the train at Ravenna, O., the rain was coming down in torrents," said Mr. Hollister. "It had been raining that way for hours, but that town had not suffered to any great extent. We proceeded to Toledo without encountering any difficulty. However, all along the line to Toledo we saw great expanses of water.

"When we neared Toledo, though, we began to see what was the extent of the flood. On the outskirts of that city there was nothing but water. Barns had been swept from their original sites and were being washed about aimlessly. It was hard to tell the depth because everything was water.

POLE ABOUT IN CRUDE RAFTS

"Many of the men had built crude rafts and they were poling these about through what I suppose were once streets. Some of them appealed to the engineer of our train as it was passing to stop and take them aboard and he complied. These people were brought to Toledo. All they did was moan and weep about their losses. The wind was raw, too, and some of them were nearly frozen when we took them aboard.

"Toledo was struck badly. The lower part of the city was under water."

HUNDREDS OF HOMES DESTROYED

"Our ride on the train was a long period of awful suspense," said Mrs. Henrietta Lama of Pittsburgh,

"Every moment we feared that the train would be wrecked.

"The women on board were wonderfully calm and collected, however. The men seemed even more excited than we were.

"Hundreds of homes were destroyed along the route. Dead animals of all kinds were seen floating around in the water-filled ditches.

"The track was covered with water. The engineer was unable to see the track. At times he was forced to halt the train and explore the conditions of the rails for yards ahead.

"It seemed as though he was taking a chance in going at a high rate of speed over the tracks he could not see, and it was this that made us somewhat nervous.

"Much damage to property was done in Lima, Ohio. There we saw hundreds of homeless families and many who had been injured."

SEES FAMILIES FLEEING

J. F. Holmes of Fargo, N. D., another passenger, said:

"The scenes along the track of the flood-swept towns were the most pitiful I have ever witnessed. Horses were drowned before my eyes as well as cows, pigs and thousands and thousands of chickens.

"Hundreds of persons were walking on the tracks,

knee deep in water, carrying with them the most precious of their household effects. The women were in tears.

"Many families were in small boats, which were so heavily loaded they appeared in momentary danger of overturning.

"The train I was on was lucky to get through without mishap. I understand that miles of the track was swept away a few moments after we had passed over it."

HOMES FLOAT IN STREETS

"In Fort Wayne the water had risen to the second windows of homes when we passed through," said George B. Dodge of Boston. "Several homes had been demolished and were floating about in the streets.

"Temporary platforms were built to allow passengers to get on and off of the trains. There were not many who got off, however."

A ROUNDABOUT ROUTE

W. R. Sullivan, a Dayton business man on his way to Denver, heard of the flood while at Grand Island, Neb. He returned to Lincoln, Neb., where the difficulties of travel began. He darted to Kansas City, where delay confronted him; back to St. Joseph, Mo.; but here, too, no railroad would promise to deliver him to Dayton. Finally he went to St. Louis, caught a train to Guthrie, Ky.; worked back through Louisville to Cincinnati, and from the last city arrived home in an automobile. He found the relief committee had com-

mandeered his own motor car and that his wife had given away most of her bedding, clothing and food, but that she and the children were safe.

Satisfied, Mr. Sullivan offered his services to the city. His story is a sample of hundreds.

SWIMS IN SEEKING FAMILY

A druggist of Anderson, Ind., whose family was visiting in Dayton, arrived in a state of collapse. Despairing of traveling by rail, he set out to conquer the flood. Where he could he hired vehicles, but he pursued a straight course, fording or swimming icy waters, plunging through swamps and crawling over broken and dangerous trestles. His feet, knees and hands were swollen when he reached Richmond, Ind.

Then he offered $150 and a new set of tires for a machine to take him the forty-three miles to Dayton, but none would take the risk. Later Sharon Jones, who was in charge of forwarding relief at Richmond, bundled him into one of the relief automobiles and he completed the trip.

Jones learned his story, but not his name. It is not known whether he found his family.

PROFESSOR ON ROOF TWO DAYS

After being marooned two days on the roof of the Union station at Dayton, Ohio, living the first day on a bit of milk chocolate and later on food he seized as it

floated near his perch, Professor H. W. Mumford of the college of agriculture, University of Illinois, reached his home in Champaign, Ill., March 29.

"It was an experience I shall never forget," said Professor Mumford.

"I left home last Sunday for Springfield, Ohio, and expected to return Tuesday morning. When I got to Dayton I changed cars, took the first train and went to bed. When I woke up in the morning I was still in Dayton, my train had not left the station.

"The flood had come up suddenly and there was no chance for escape."

RISKS LIFE FOR FOOD

Samuel F. Dutton, of Denver, president of the Albany Hotel Company, came to Chicago directly from Youngstown, Ohio, having left that city on the B. & O. just before the flood tide swept through it. He and a brakeman narrowly escaped with their lives while attempting to get food for a score of women and children after their train had stood motionless over night only seventeen miles north of Youngstown. The two arrived safely at a farm house half a mile away through torrents of rain. The water rose so rapidly that it was waist deep in low places before they started to return. The trainman, whose name was Martin, was swept from his feet. A wire fence saved his life.

WOMAN DESCRIBES FEARS

Mrs. C. E. Clifton, president of the Evanston Woman's Club, arrived in Chicago March 26 from Atlantic City. Hers was one of the last trains to make its way through the flooded district. The lives of more than a hundred people were imperiled when it crossed a tottering bridge just out of Lima, Ohio, which twenty minutes later was swept away. The train traversed tracks which were under water most of the time.

"Our train was one of the last to come through the flood district," she said. "We arrived in Chicago more than nine hours late. In Lima the water was from four to eight feet deep, each street looking like a mountain torrent. The upper floors of office buildings were crowded with people who had either deserted their homes or been marooned. In coming from Baltimore we traveled over four different railroads, being switched from one to another as word reached us that washouts had occurred. Sometimes after proceeding several miles from a junction town we were compelled to back up and take another route. The town of Lafayette, Ohio, was completely covered with water and we saw houses that had been torn from their foundations as if made of paper.

"Just after we left Lima we crossed a bridge which barely stood above the surface of the water. It swayed dangerously as we crept across it. Twenty minutes later, we heard, it was swept away."

STORY OF EUGENE YSAYE

Chicago may rejoice in a new title, "The City of Heavenly Rest," bestowed on it March 28 by Eugene Ysaye, the violinist, who arrived there after four days in the flooded district beyond reach of telephone or telegraph or railroad trains. In his watery adventures he missed engagements in Detroit and Cincinnati and barely made his concert with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra.

"So tired, so tired," he said holding his head wearily, when he left the stage at Orchestra hall and walked in a sort of daze to his dressing room. "I'm going to bed, and O, it will be so good! This is the city of heavenly rest."

On the train which arrived from Indianapolis after detouring over the Big Four, Monon, Pennsylvania, and Lake Shore tracks, were M. Ysaye, his son, Gabriel, and Rudolph Ganz, the Swiss pianist, who was gathered up on the way. All were exhausted.

"We gave the Monday night concert in Oxford, O., and went to bed well pleased," said the violinist, still holding his head. "When we were to start for Cincinnati on the following morning, we were told all the tracks were gone, and the telegraph and telephone gone. Rain? Don't talk about it. We found we might possibly get a train by going to Hamilton, thirteen miles away. We got together five carriages, loaded

our six trunks, and fourteen bags aboard, and prepared to start. The girls at the college burst into great applause, and one of the teams bolted down the road and smashed the rig.

"We loaded up again in the rain and reached the river just west of Hamilton. Then the horror broke on us, for we saw the great bridge gone, the yellow, swirling river at our feet, and down the channel were tossing whole houses with persons screaming from the roofs. I watched, spellbound. Then back we went to Oxford, the horses exhausted, and one of the carriages broken. We arrived at 9 o'clock at night, after an all day drenching, and nothing accomplished.

WHEN YSAYE DIDN'T LAUGH

"We set out for Detroit on Wednesday by driving twenty-eight miles to Richmond, Ind. I remember going through one ravine where the water was rushing four feet deep. I got wet. The others laughed. I didn't. And in Richmond we were no better off, for all the roads were gone.

"And then we got to Indianapolis, I don't know how, except that the engine and tender and baggage coach ran off the track, and it took until midnight to get them back. Then we crawled along to Elkhart. There we found a telegraph wire open and in great relief snapped a message off to Chicago. We beat it in, and it took

us more than four hours to make the trip, leaving no time for rehearsal."

"What did you do then?"

Ysaye grinned for the first time.

"I went to my hotel," he said, "and—took a different kind of bath."

CO-EDS DESCRIBE FLOOD SCENES

Four weary young women, co-eds from Ohio Wesleyan University at Delaware, Ohio, climbed from a Pullman on a delayed Lake Shore train on Friday afternoon, March 28. They were the first arrivals in Chicago from the actual scenes of death and desolation attending the floods throughout central Ohio.

Eagerly questioned by newspaper men, the young women talked freely of their experience and painted graphic word pictures of the horrors of the inundation of a large part of the town of Delaware.

They were: Miss Florence Wyman of 3633 Sheffield avenue, student in general work and instructor in the art school of the university; Edith and Esther Quayle and Mabel Lees, all of Oak Park, Ill.

"The thought that is uppermost in my mind," said Miss Wyman, "is not so much of the horror that has passed as of the greater horror that must inevitably come to those poor people in Delaware and elsewhere throughout the flooded district. There are some dead bodies still in the houses in Delaware and elsewhere in

Ohio, and it is staggering to the imagination to attempt to conjure up the picture of desolation, famine and pestilence that will follow the recession of the waters.

A HORRIBLE NIGHTMARE

"The flood itself was like a horrible nightmare. The water crept up slowly, but, oh, so steadily and relentlessly. First it was six inches deep in some of the lower streets; then a foot deep, and at last it had covered all the lower part of town and was lapping at the foot of the hills, while the houses in the flooded portion stood, many of them, with only the upper stories and roofs visible.

"And on nearly every house there was a family, or what was left of the family, clinging to the ridgepole and chimneys and praying for deliverance.

"The university stands on the highest hill in town, and we were not affected by the flood itself. But all night, the first night, the 300 girls in Monnett Hall, our dormitory, walked the floor and wept and prayed as the wails of the unfortunates only a few blocks away were borne to their ears. Closed windows could not keep out the sound. Now and then a woman shrieked above the general lamentations, and we knew when that sound reached us that some one had seen a loved relative, an aged father or mother, or perhaps a child, lose the grip of numbed fingers and slide off into the black, chill waters.

RESCUE WORK MAKES HEROES

"Throughout the night the men students and members of the faculty did what they could to rescue the sufferers, but we had no boats at the university and it was almost impossible to guide a raft through the blackness of the night, which was intensified by a cold, drizzling rain.

"As soon as dawn came the boys got together in an organized rescue corps. Our school produced a hundred heroes in half an hour. Every one of those students risked death on the flimsy rafts they were able to construct, but they never hesitated. They found some small boats, too, and did as well as they could with these. Professor W. E. Dixon, the physical director of the university headed the work of rescue.

"Some of the houses could not be reached at all. The rafts were unmanageable, and the few boats were smashed one after another as they were caught by the eddying currents."

SAVED FROM STARVATION

This is the story told by a reporter at Sidney, Ohio, who returned Thursday afternoon from Piqua:

"The four carloads of provisions that were sent to Piqua from Lima saved survivors from starvation. Food stocks in the stricken city were completely exhausted when the supply train arrived.

"At 4 o'clock Thursday four bodies had been recov-

ered. The bodies of the others who lost their lives are in the lowlands. The exact number of lives lost in the flood will never be known.

"Pooltables in the poolrooms at Piqua were utilized as beds. Men, women and children slept Wednesday night on the floors of the churches, schools and lodge rooms.

"Residents whose homes escaped the flood opened their houses to the less fortunate. The Plaza Hotel, which had several feet of water in it when the flood was at its height, sheltered hundreds of the homeless."

WHAT A LECTURER SAW

Thrilling stories of the flooded district in Ohio were told by the Rev. E. R. O'Neal, who returned to Chicago March 28 from a lecture tour. He said he saw rescuers take twenty-eight bodies from the river at Delaware, O.

"All of the small towns along the river have been deluged," he said. "The greatest problem is food. The victims are starving and freezing to death. Those who are able to work are making every effort to rescue and help others. There is no communication between the towns.

"While at Delaware I saw college students make many thrilling rescues by swimming out into the swift current and swimming back with a flood victim. One young man swam out and rescued thirty persons in one day. He was the bravest fellow I ever saw.

WOMEN AND CHILDREN AFLOAT

"I saw a house with one woman and three children clinging to the roof floating down the stream. The house was whirling and bobbing up and down in the water. The woman was screaming for help. Persons on the edge of the flood had a small boat, but they could not row fast enough to catch up with the house.

"The house bore down on the Pennsylvania railroad bridge and crashed against it. The mother caught the bridge and held on. The children went down, but came up again near a tree. The eldest child helped the other two and held on to the tree. The boat put out and rescued all of them.

"A few minutes later a house with an old man about 75 years and his wife floated down the stream. The woman was lying on the roof. The old man was holding her. Suddenly the house struck a tree and the brick chimney fell off. Then we saw the old man lift his wife in his arms and carry her to the chimney hole in the roof and let her down into it. When the rescuers put out in a boat and caught up with the house, one of the rescuers inquired of the woman.

" 'She is dead,' said the old man. 'She died two hours ago, and I was afraid to let her lie on the roof because the water would carry her away.'

"I saw another house with a man and woman clinging to the chimney to keep from falling off. The house

struck a tree and the chimney crumbled. Both went down before the boat reached them and we never saw them again. These are only a few instances of the horrible things seen in the flooded district.

MEANEST MAN IN THE WORLD

"I went from Delaware to Prospect and the same tragedies were repeated. At Prospect I saw the meanest man in the world. The meanest man, I think, is a farmer who owned a boat at Prospect. He lived across the river from the town. He lent his boat to a Baptist minister who used it for rescue work. They saved more than a dozen women and children during the day. It was the only boat in the town.

"Although the minister could not rescue but two persons at a time he was doing noble work. Many persons were swept away before the boat could reach them. Late in the afternoon the farmer came to the shore and announced he wanted the boat. He declared he would take the boat by force. He said he wanted the boat to go across the river and attend to some business.

"The minister refused to give up the boat, but offered to row the farmer across the dangerous river, if he could keep the boat. The farmer grudgingly assented, and a newspaper man from Marion and the minister rowed him across. It was the first attempt

to take the boat across the swift river and was extremely dangerous.

"The preacher declared he would take any risk in order to keep the boat. They landed the farmer across the river after much difficulty. They started back and when in the middle of the stream the boat capsized and both went down. With the boat hundreds of persons could have been rescued.

BREAD FAMINE AT DELAWARE

"The victims need food more than anything else. There is a bread famine at Delaware. To show they were willing to do anything to help the sufferers more than 100 students at Wesleyan college volunteered to leave the city so there would be 100 less to feed. The students departed at night for their homes in different parts of the country.

"At Celina I saw the same suffering. The town was under ten feet of water. I saw them take ten bodies from the water at Massillon, O. Prospect, O., is under fourteen feet of water and the river at that point is four miles wide. I saw them take more than a dozen bodies from the water.

"The reports of the dead have not been sent in from these small towns and the country will be sufficiently appalled when the full number is known. From what I saw there is little wonder that the reports have been exaggerated.

"Piqua and Fostoria are under water and many people are drowned. The nearest I could get to Dayton was Piqua. Most of the town was under water. It was impossible to get to Dayton."

DIES AFTER BEING RESCUED

At Delaware, Ohio, William Fielding clung to a tree for three days and was rescued only to die of exposure. A Mr. Rainer was marooned in the top of a tree for three days and a half and was rescued. He became ill from his frightful experience. A little girl was picked up at Delaware from a raft on which she had floated five miles from Stratford.

NURSE MEETS TRIPLE MISFORTUNE

One of the saddest passengers who arrived in Chicago from the flooded district was Miss M. Wilkins, a trained nurse. She was in tears when she stepped off the Dixie flyer at the LaSalle street station.

"I had gone to Jacksonville, Fla., in response to a message stating that my sister was seriously ill there," she said. "Almost as soon as I arrived there I received a message telling of the destruction of our home, three miles north of Omaha. All of the members of my family, the message said, had been hurt, my mother seriously. Of course, I immediately started back for the west.

"Coming through Ohio we were caught by the floods and were delayed for a long time. The scenes of suf-

fering that I saw there naturally did not have a cheering effect on me, full of worry as I was for my own people in Omaha. I hope I have seen the worst and will be able to get back to my family before anything serious happens."

SAW FLOOD BEGINNING

"God save Peru! I left there late last night and just saw the start of the flood. If it keeps on it will be awful. There is no way of stopping the Wabash river as it was rushing through Peru yesterday. There are no banks to it whatever, and it flows but a few blocks from the main business district. Only a miracle can save the people who live in the lowlands."

This statement, the first personal information to reach South Bend March 27 concerning the Peru disaster, was made by a traveling man from Chicago, who was deeply impressed with fear of the possibilities. Fortunately the outcome, though horrible enough, was not so bad as he evidently anticipated.

Vivid stories of the havoc worked by the floods in Indiana towns were related by R. W. Duke of Kokomo, Ind., and John F. Fox of Chicago, who arrived in Chicago from the flooded regions by the Pennsylvania Railroad March 28.

"When I received the first news of the floods I boarded a train at Kokomo on the Erie Railroad for Peru in order to assist my relatives, who live there,"

said Mr. Duke. "We found the track washed out when we arrived within three miles of my destination and were forced to take a rowboat to enter Peru. The scenes which I witnessed in Peru will live forever in my memory.

"People were floating about on rafts, waiting to be rescued. The work of the relief committees is confined to aiding the living. No time has been found to seek the bodies of those who perished."

SEES BRIDGE SWEPT AWAY

Glenn Marston, editor of the Public Service Magazine, arrived in Chicago March 29 from Columbus. "Things occurred in such rapid succession that it was impossible to remember them all," said Mr. Marston. "On Wednesday, when the flood was at its height, I climbed to the roof of the Crittenden Hotel. From that point I saw at least 500 people standing on housetops, waving tablecloths, towels and other things, in an effort to attract attention. When I was trying to get out of Columbus on Thursday afternoon I saw several people, including a number of women, standing on the High street bridge. I was astounded when I saw the bridge suddenly swept away, taking with it the people who had endeavored to cross. It was impossible to aid them and they sank in a whirling pool before my eyes."

CHAPTER VIII

WHAT A CORRESPONDENT SAW

CONCISE AND INTERESTING STORY BY ONE OF THE FIRST VISITORS TO DAYTON AFTER THE FLOOD.

Mr. Eugene J. Cour, a special correspondent of the Chicago Journal, returned on Saturday, March 29, from Dayton with a graphic story of the great flood. Mr. Cour made many photographs while standing shoulder deep in icy water. He escaped from the flood and walked 26 miles to a railway to get a train that would take him back to Chicago.

Mr. Cour's photographs of conditions in Dayton were the first to be published in Chicago.

For four days and three nights Mr. Cour was unable to lie down even for a moment. When he reached his home office he was utterly exhausted. The following story was dictated to a stenographer while Mr. Cour sat propped up in a chair:

I was the first man from west of the Miami river to reach Dayton. The scenes of destruction and desolation are almost indescribable.

A specially chartered boat carried me through the fashionable residence district, which was still under fifteen feet of water. Men and women were weeping and begging for food and water to drink.

The rescuers were carrying mud-bedraggled, haggard men and women to the boats. Their limbs were temporarily paralyzed from standing in the water up to their armpits for thirty-two hours. Many had babies and children in their arms.

Frame cottages from North Dayton, which had been carried two miles to this district, were smashed into kindling in front yards and streets. Hundreds of wrecked automobiles, street cars and wagons interfered with the rescue boats. The asphalt pavements had been torn up and strewn in huge piles along the streets.

Dead animals lay all about the city. The Algonquin hotel, at one time reported burned, and the Y. M. C. A. building, in which 1,500 persons sought shelter, were both intact, though under several feet of mud and debris. A team of dead horses blocked the entrance to the Algonquin.

At the Union station, where 600 persons were reported drowned, I found eighteen dead horses, the relief train having taken the 600 refugees to the camps. I investigated every report of bodies found and learned of only two that had been recovered in the downtown district.

The burned area covers two square blocks. There was little danger of the fire spreading, as the fifteen feet of water inundating the buildings proved an effectual barrier.

I learned that the soldiers found it necessary only twice to fire on looters. In neither case were the thieves injured.

The principal cause of destruction in the Dayton View district was the breaking of the levee, which let in tons of water, and piled up hundreds of houses and barns against the principal residences and buildings.

BUILDINGS FILLED WITH MUD

The force of the current had washed deep ditches through the asphalt streets and carried the mud of the levee and river into the buildings, filling them in some places as deep as three feet.

Following the flood, it rained or snowed continuously.

The Dayton View schoolhouse, military headquarters and the refugee station for the City of Dayton, was crowded with the thousands who had been rescued from the waters. Here they were fed and given medical treatment. From this point they were sent to the various homes on the heights.

The real necessity seemed to be water. There was no means of distributing the little water on hand.

Nearly all rescued were thoroughly soaked and

chilled. There was no way of warming them or furnishing them with dry clothing. Forty-five automobiles were running continuously from this point, carrying refugees to homes and churches.

NONE COMPLAINED OF LOSSES

No one complained of the losses they suffered and none dared to estimate the casualties.

When I asked survivors whether they knew personally of any loss of life, especially in their own families they burst into tears and turned away, unable to answer.

The first person to make an estimate of the calamity was a military guard at Dayton bridge. I asked him if the report that 1,600 were dead was true. He told me that this was a conservative estimate.

At the Summerdale school in Riverdale, the military headquarters, the same conditions prevailed as at Dayton View. Here, however, the poor of the stricken city, the real sufferers of the flood, were being tenderly cared for.

CLIMB A TELEGRAPH POLE

Paul Siegel, a refugee and an employee of the National Cash Register Company, told this story:

"I saw fourteen people on debris jammed between a lamppost and a telegraph pole. The jam began to break up and the people climbed frantically up the telegraph pole. Several of them were women.

"One held a baby in her arms. All the fourteen

reached a safe place on the pole. We watched through the night and could distinguish them at intervals in the flare of the fires raging in the city. Several attempts were made to reach them, but the current was impassable. At dawn there were five left. These were rescued later in the day."

WOMEN AND CHILDREN FIRST

In all rescue work, the women and children were cared for first. In the thousands of rescues made, not a man of Dayton attempted to violate the law of "women and children first," though this adherence cost the lives of many.

At the foot of the Dayton View bridge, the established rescue station, newborn babies were taken from the boats. Mothers were unconscious. In many instances women were taken from beds to their two and three day old infants.

The rescuers were hampered in this work because practically the only boats were unstable canoes, and there were far too few of these. It was reported that in several cases where invalids were being taken ashore the boats were overturned and rescuers and rescued alike perished in the muddy waters.

WORK OF HEROIC RESCUERS

Rescuers, police and soldiers have no relief. They work until exhausted and are carried to huge log fires, where they sleep in the mud. There are men that Day-

ton will never forget and that Ohio is proud of. This is the consensus of opinion of those who are held at the outer fringe of the swirling waters and have witnessed the results of the work of the heroes.

THE FIRST RELIEF TRAIN

The first relief to reach Dayton was sent Wednesday by farmers of the surrounding country, following an appeal for aid for the women, children and babies of the stricken city. The appeal was carried from town to town by automobiles, and a relief train made up of a switch engine and seven cars, which had been marooned on a thirty-mile strip of the Pennsylvania tracks, was given right of way.

The farmers responded so promptly that the seven cars were filled at the first three stations. The supplies were principally eggs, milk, potatoes and freshly killed cattle and hogs.

The tracks on the different lines had been mended by Wednesday night. Soon they were congested on the north side of Dayton by relief trains hurrying into the city.

FARMERS SEND COOKED FOOD

The practical farmers, realizing the conditions, have, in every case, tried to send cooked foods. All flour donated and confiscated has been turned over to the housewives and the lights in the farmhouses and homes

in the small towns can be seen burning all night. There bread is being baked by the women.

In my journey to Dayton I found that the water everywhere east of Lafayette had reached its record flood mark. I was first stopped at West Indianapolis by the White river, which had carried away all communication with Indianapolis. The three available boats in the town were being used to rescue 450 women and children from Schoolhouse No. 16 and others from house roofs.

I got a guide and detoured north and around Eagle creek, seeking a place to make the passage across. Here we found conditions worse. There was a report that 300 were dead. We trailed back through the mud to West Indianapolis and found an abandoned boat. With this we struck out in an attempt to cross the torrent.

IN WATER UP TO HIS ARMPITS

We shot Niagara-like rapids for two blocks before we could get through the current into still water. We rowed about a quarter of a mile when our boat struck bottom. We found we were upon a submerged railroad yard. It was necessary to get out of the boat and drag it from track to track. Sometimes we were up to our armpits in water. Finally we struck a washout.

While pulling at the boat I slipped into the washout. With the assistance of the guide I was able to get back

to the boat, although I had been completely "ducked" in the icy water.

From this point we experienced little difficulty in reaching the west end of the Vandalia bridge. The bridge was in imminent danger of going out. We crossed this as quickly as our chilled limbs would permit. We made the journey in a raging blizzard. We reached Indianapolis late in the evening.

Here I learned that the Big Four railroad would attempt to put a work train over a route which would bring me within thirty miles of Dayton.

WENT WITH WORK TRAIN

I got permission to go with the train. We made the journey easily, but were forced to get out of the train at frequent intervals to remove telegraph poles and other impediments from the track, which had been hurled there by the storm.

We reached Arcanum, thirty miles north of Dayton, at 1:30 Wednesday afternoon.

Here I found hundreds of men and women of Dayton cut off from their families, terrorized by the rumor (which happily proved unfounded) that there were 10,000 dead.

Every available conveyance was confiscated to rush relief to Dayton. None of the hundreds had been able to get any nearer the stricken city. Some had attempted to walk, but the strain under which they labored soon

broke them down and kind farmers led them back to the little city.

COMES UPON A HANDCAR

I decided that I must strike out for Dayton at once and started to walk. I crossed the traction lines and reached the Dayton & Union railroad tracks. Here I spied a handcar in possession of five men. They were carrying it across a switch.

I ran about a quarter of a mile and hailed them before they got started. I was out of breath, but they got my signal and waited for me. I explained to them that I would pay any reasonable price to ride with them as far as they would go toward Dayton.

They refused to take anyone. They were carrying supplies to the stricken city. I jumped on to the car in spite of their remonstrance.

"If this car won't go with me on board I'll get off," I told them.

The little gasoline motor chugged just as strongly with my added weight, and I was immediately booked as a passenger.

We reached Dodson Junction and the operator at this point informed the man in charge of the handcar that the first relief train was expected through in a short time, and that, although they could not permit him to carry in supplies, he could wait for the relief train.

From this point I took the relief train to within three miles of Dayton. I walked from there to military headquarters at Dayton View. After being assured of the genuineness of my credentials, Major Huber granted me a military pass. This was at 3:30 Wednesday afternoon. I walked across the Dayton View bridge. Here I got my first glimpse of the stricken city.

The terrors, later unfolded, were obscured. There was a slight sleet falling which cast a curtain over the panorama of the submerged town.

The women and children in this part of Dayton had nearly all been rescued and the rescuers were bringing out the men who had been left behind. They refused to take me to the business section in a boat, declaring that lives were at stake, and that there were too few boats to lend space to a newspaper man.

FINDS A FRIEND AT LAST

A young man who owned a canoe volunteered to take me into the city of Dayton. It was a hard pull against the current. We reached within a block of dry pavement. Here we were cut off by debris. I was forced to climb over the debris and waded into the city through muddy water hip deep.

I gained dry land at about 4 o'clock. The military guards were then ordering the people into their homes, permitting nobody to be on the streets after that time.

After some difficulty I finally was permitted to make

a tour through the downtown section. I was passed from one guard to another. I made pictures in every direction as I walked rapidly down the streets. The third guard refused to allow a violation of the military orders. I explained that I did not belong in the city, displaying my credentials, but he curtly replied: "You're all right; swim."

Two hundred people were waiting to get to the refugee stations. There were two boats, a canoe which would carry two persons and a small flat-bottomed affair which would hold three.

The guard kept a line formed and at the rate the boats were progressing I was about 200 hours from dry land. I made a detour, crossing a jam of lumber and other debris which reached out about a block and a half into the flood.

Testing the depth, I found a shallow spot, knee deep.

I removed my coat and wrapped up my camera, and set out.

GRAVEL KNEE-DEEP IN STREET

I thought I might be able to reach the other side of the break in the levee. I found, after wading to my armpits, that the current had washed out to a considerable depth. I struck off for Monument avenue. I got through to the avenue by way of an alley. Here I found gravel piled knee deep in the street.

I signaled and shouted at the top of my voice for

help. A rescue boat set out for me and took me to the foot of Monument avenue. I was bundled into an automobile and taken two and a half miles to a relief station, fortunately north, in the direction I wished to go.

There was no heat in the station and, as my clothing was soaked, I set out on a brisk walk toward Arcanum, leaving Dayton behind.

I made inquiries along the way, but was unable to get any sort of conveyance. My clothing froze and gave me great difficulty in walking.

I walked to Brookville, a distance of fourteen miles. I was nearly exhausted. I stopped for hot coffee and sandwiches and resumed my journey. After walking three miles I discovered I was on my way back to Dayton. I then turned about and proceeded again toward Arcanum.

I reached Dodson about 3 o'clock Thursday morning. From there I took the Dayton and Union tracks. They were in terrible condition—washed out for hundreds of feet.

After walking about three miles my steps became more or less automatic and, finally losing caution, I stepped into a washout, bruising myself and severely straining my knee.

FARMER'S HEART SOFTENS

I stumbled on to the first farmhouse and, being crippled, again sought a conveyance. The farmer, Mc-

Nally, was in charge of the relief in that district, and he did not wish to hamper their collecting system by hiring out his buggy. Finally, noting my exhausted condition, he agreed to take me into Arcanum on my agreeing to donate $10 toward the relief subscription. I just made connection with the train to Indianapolis.

I reached Indianapolis at 3:10 Friday afternoon. I immediately inquired about trains for Chicago. An attendant pointed to a train leaving the station and said:

"That's the second train to leave here for Chicago since the flood."

I caught it by a hard sprint and arrived at Chicago without further incident.

WORK OF THE RESCUERS

One of the passengers on the first relief train from Toledo that succeeded in entering the stricken city of Dayton after a circuitous trail through flood-bound territory, was Mr. Clyde T. Brown, a staff representative of the Chicago Daily News. The reports of his observations and his personal experiences, added to the distressing tales he heard from the lips of those who had lived through days and nights of horror, combine to make a story that needs no embellishment.

It is a story of how a city suddenly found its paved streets turned into raging torrents; of how great build-

ings suddenly became small helpless islands—rocks in the surf of a storm-ridden sea, and of how homes were swept away like toy houses of sand in the rising tide on the beach. It is also a story of gallantry and heroism in the work of rescue.

Mr. Brown was aboard a relief train which was sent from Toledo by the New York Central railroad at 6:30 p. m. Wednesday, less than thirty-six hours after the terrible torrent of the Big Miami river had broken upon Dayton. It ran through long stretches where everything except only the roadway was under water.

The perilous trip of the relief train and his subsequent experiences were described by Mr. Brown as follows:

"We made the trip in eighteen hours, arriving at Dayton after considerable difficulty, shortly after noon Thursday. We proceeded on the train that left Toledo to West Liberty. This part of the journey was made in a roundabout way. At this point we came up to a washed-out bridge.

RELAYED BY FARMERS' WAGONS

"A hundred or more farmers with teams stood ready. The train was carrying a stock of medicines, clothing and food, besides doctors, nurses, naval cadets, telegraph operators and newspaper men. The provisions were taken from the train and loaded into the farmers' wagons. There was a haul of three and a half miles to

get around the washout to the other side, where another train waited. We walked this distance through mud, water and snow.

"In the second train we went to Xenia, thence to Springfield and finally to Dayton. All along we encountered flooded conditions and at times the train made barely eight miles an hour.

"At Dayton we found a frantic, despairing, half-starved lot of people. They were huddled together wherever high spots in the city afforded a place of refuge. The flood had receded somewhat, but the streets still were raging torrents in many parts of the city and the water marks on the buildings showed that the flood at some points had been twelve feet deep.

"The militia already had established a wall about the city and sightseers were barred absolutely. All along the route of our train persons attempted to get aboard to go to Dayton and it was with difficulty that they were kept off the coaches. At Springfield, for instance, a gang of ruffians attempted to get onto the train by force and there was a struggle before they were repulsed.

"Every one in Dayton had on high rubber boots. Travel was almost impossible except by boats. Everywhere the work of rescue was being carried on. Every man that was able was aiding in the work.

"In many of the large buildings there were still hundreds of men and women marooned and these were being

taken from their places of refuge as quickly as possible. Throughout the residence section of the city people were imprisoned in their second stories and on the house tops. Members of the rescue party were taking food to these people in boats, making the rounds of the flooded homes.

"The early horror of the catastrophe seemed to have passed somewhat and the people had become slightly hardened to the situation. They were in a nerve shattered condition, however, and they showed the effects of sleeplessness and the overtaxing of mind and body.

"New panic broke out when it was reported Thursday afternoon that the Lewiston reservoir had broken and another flood was on the way. This report proved to be untrue.

"There were stories of fearful tragedies mingled with tales of remarkable heroism to be gained from those who had fought through the trying hours to save their fellow men.

"The number of deaths remained a mystery. About eighty bodies had been recovered when I left Dayton Thursday night. They had been placed in temporary morgues. Many of the deaths were the result of suicide among persons who became frantic as they watched the death waters creep upon them.

SAILORS SAVE 150, THEN PERISH

"There was a remarkable story of heroism of two sailor lads who happened to be in Dayton when the flood

broke. They gave up their lives in the work of rescue. Their identity was buried with them in the swirling waters.

"The two sailors were in the residence section of West Dayton when the torrent reached there. Able at the oars, they quickly obtained a boat. I was told that they rescued at least 150 men, women and children from marooned residences, carrying load after load to higher land.

"The waters became higher and more turbulent as they proceeded with their work. They started out upon another trip of rescue. They encountered the rapid current. The boat was capsized within sight of many of those they had saved. It was impossible to swim in the raging water and the two heroes went down, their bodies to be carried away, probably never to be found.

"The heroes whose deeds were recounted to me were too numerous to list. Men struggled in the work of rescue until their muscles gave out and their strength failed. Large numbers of boats were at hand. They had been sent from all neighboring towns and localities.

"Immediate rescue of those marooned in the large buildings in the business section of the city was impossible because of the swiftness of the current and this was not attempted until Thursday, when the waters had begun to recede considerably.

METHOD OF RESCUE UNIQUE

"The method of rescue was unique. The current in most of the streets made it unsafe to attempt to row to the buildings. Ropes and cables were hurled into windows and made fast. In many of the buildings elevator cables were cut and brought into use. The boatmen used these ropes and cables to propel their boats, making progress hand over hand.

"Hunger was the chief cause of suffering among those who had been marooned in the office buildings, but plenty of food was at hand once the work of rescue became possible.

"Churches, schools and all buildings on higher ground were turned into dormitories. Many persons also were taken out of Dayton to near by localities. Every farmer who could drive to Dayton was there ready to return to his home with as many of the flood victims as he could afford to care for and house.

"There were many cases of individual heroism. A barber, Edward Price, thinking that his wife and child were safe in their home in Edgemont, when the flood first broke went into the heart of Dayton to rescue his parents and brothers and sisters. He procured a boat and after a difficult and perilous trip he found the entire family on the roof of their home, the water already lapping the second story. Alone he carried the members of the family to safety. In the meantime the roaring

waters had spread throughout all parts of the city and Edgemont was submerged. When I left Dayton he had not found his wife and child, for whom he had been searching night and day.

KILLS WIFE AND HIMSELF

"There were many suicides. One particularly tragic incident occurred in a house in Jefferson street. A man and wife stood at a second story window of their home Tuesday throughout the afternoon calling frantically for help. The street before the house had become a torrent and no one dared brave the current to get to the house in a boat. The water continued to crawl toward the two at the window. 'If the water reaches us I shall kill my wife and end my own life!' the man shouted. He brandished a revolver. Darkness fell. Two shots were heard to ring out. In the morning the two figures were not at the window.

"Several men who were aiding in the rescue work Thursday met death when a carload of carbide exploded near the railroad station.

"Others, in walking about the flooded streets after the waters had receded somewhat, suddenly disappeared from view. The cause of this, it was learned, was that the force of the waters in the sewers had blown off the covers of many manholes and men were walking into them unawares.

DEAD ANIMALS LITTER STREETS

"Hundreds of horses and dogs were lying dead in the street from which the water had backed off by Thursday afternoon. Several hundred residences were carried away by the flood, but most of the wreckage had been carried downstream so that very little of the destruction in this respect was visible. Estimates as to the number of persons carried to their death with these houses varied and were entirely uncertain.

"The actual damage done by the several fires that burned Thursday in the business section of the city could not be established, because it was impossible to get near enough to see. The fire was said to have started in a drug store. As far as I could learn no one was burned to death. A large number of persons, including women and girls, were rescued from one of the burning buildings.

"When I left Dayton Thursday night the water had left many of the streets and it was not more than four feet deep at any point, I should judge. None of the large buildings had been wrecked. Stocks were ruined, however, and the loss of residences was undoubtedly large.

"There was little attempt at looting. The militia force, which had the city under perfect control in conjunction with the police, was on a strict watch for any such attempt."

CHAPTER IX

INCIDENTS OF THE FLOOD

Tales of Pathos and Horror That Will Be Long Remembered in the Flooded Districts

The story of what really happened during the first two nights and a day in Dayton after the waters broke loose was slowly told on Thursday the 27th by relatives of the supposed dead and the exhausted rescuers and the prostrated victims as they were brought to places of safety. Each fragment of the story is a tragedy in itself.

There is the story of George H. Schaeffer, a rescuer, who went out into the flood with a skiff and saved a woman and baby.

"A house that had been torn from its foundation came floating up behind us," Schaeffer said. "The woman was frightened. I told her there was no danger. Suddenly she stood up and jumped over with her baby in her arms. She went straight down and never came up again."

Then there was the horror that "Bill" Riley, former clerk of the United States Court at Cincinnati and now a salesman for the National Cash Register Company, saw himself.

"We saw a very old woman standing at the window of a house waiting for rescue," said Riley. "We rowed up to it. Suddenly the house parted and the woman in it was engulfed. That was the last we saw of her."

FLOATS AWAY IN HOME

Then there was the man who, nearly rescued, had stepped into the skiff and then walked back into his home which a short time later floated away with him.

And the story of the negro mother who was being rowed to safety with her two babies, when the skiff struck a tree and the little craft capsized. The babies were drowned. The mother was rescued by Robert Burnham, the owner of the skiff, only to die before she reached the hospital.

ESCAPED ON A WIRE BRIDGE

John Scott, an employe of the National Register Company, who came recently from Butte, Mont., ascended a telegraph pole and guided across the cable to places of safety, men, women and children rescued from flooded houses. It would not have seemed real if presented in a melodrama, this method of bridging a flood, but here was done in the presence of hundreds who stood at safe spots appalled by the imminence of danger.

Scott had guided a dozen persons across the swaying bridge of wires when the explosion that started the fire occurred and the shock knocked Scott from the pole and he fell into a tree.

"The last I saw of him he was trying to get into the window of the abandoned house by way of one of the branches of the tree," said Frank Stevens, a fellow employe of Scott. "The house was in the path of the fire."

One woman had been marooned on top of a moving van in the middle of the roadway since 10 o'clock Tuesday morning. She and two men were attempting to cross the flood in the moving van when the vehicle tipped. One of the men was thrown out and drowned, the other got on the horse and, although swept away, is thought to have reached safety.

GIRL IN MAN'S CLOTHES

"What is your name?" asked the registrar who received refugees at the National Cash Register plant, of a slender person in men's clothing.

"Norma Thuma," was the reply.

"Norma?" he asked.

"Yes, I'm a girl," was the answer. She had put on man's clothes in order to cross the perilous span of wires, unhampered by skirts.

Norma reached safety with Ralph Myers, his wife and their little baby. Myers had climbed the pole first. He let down a rope to his wife, who tied to it a meal sack which contained their baby, three months old. Myers pulled the rope with its precious burden up and then let it down again to aid his wife to ascend. With the meal sack over his shoulder and his wife behind him,

Myers, holding onto two thin wires, walked across the cable a full block before he reached safety.

FINDS LOST HUSBAND

There was brought from the flood on Wednesday Mrs. James Cassidy and her three children. Mrs. Cassidy was grief-stricken over the report of the death of her husband by drowning. Even as she was being registered there was brought into headquarters a man who had to be held up and who was very wet.

"Jim!" shrieked the woman. "That's you—it's you —you aren't dead! Say you aren't dead!"

Jim had been rescued from drowning. His return was the one bit of joy in the awful gloom at the rescue headquarters, where gathered the victims of flood, fire and famine.

A woman, maddened by the sorrows of the day, fought with Bill Riley and his companion, Charles Wagner, who had rescued her in a boat. She bit Riley in the hand and choked Wagner, who sought to restrain her. The little boat swayed and was on the point of capsizing when the woman suddenly became calm and began to pray.

REMEMBERED HER FRIEND

A woman with three children, marooned in the upper floor of her home on the edge of the business district, called to the oarsmen:

"Oh, I know you can't take me off," she cried, "but please take this loaf of bread and jug of molasses to Sarah Pruyn down the street; I know she's starving."

Twice the boatmen attempted to take the food, but waves that eddied about the submerged house hurled them back.

Further on, in the exclusive residence district, they were offered fabulous sums for rescue by many of the flood's prisoners. Their narrative inspired an effort to launch a boat for navigating the vast river, but up to a late hour Wednesday the craft was unable to pass beyond areas already reached on the fringe of the flooded district.

BURNING STABLE SPREADS FIRE

A. J. Saettle, owner of the house in which fire started after a gas explosion, was reported to have been blown into the air and killed instantly. Mrs. Shunk, a neighbor, was blown out of her home into the flood, and, after clinging to a telegraph pole for half an hour, finally succumbed and was sucked away under the waters, according to a report received at rescue headquarters.

The explosion blew a stable filled with hay into the middle of the flooded street and this carried the flames to the opposite side of the street.

The next house to burn was Harry Lindsay's, then Mary Creidler's and then the home of Theodore C.

Lindsay. Houses that had been carried away from their foundations floated into the flames and soon were a bonfire. The flames burned without restraint, because engines could not get near enough to stop them.

The search for the dead did not begin until all the living had been helped. The most heartrending feature of the situation was the pitiable terror of the women and children.

Many of them sat up and sobbed through the night, refusing to believe that their fathers and husbands were safe, and husbands and fathers who missed wives and children cried their grief in the nerve-shaking way that men have of voicing sorrow.

WIFE LEAPS TO DEATH

A graphic story of the harrowing scenes in the flooded Dayton district was told at Indianapolis, March 27, by Martin Ellis, a refugee from Dayton.

He told of being caught in the flood while he and his wife were in the Hotel Algonquin and of jumping from a second-story window to the roof of a house floating by.

Later, his wife, made insane by the scenes she witnessed and the thoughts of her four little children left at home in the flood-swept district, jumped from the roof into the flood and was swept away.

Ellis was in a terrible state when he reached safety.

Exposure and loss of his family had placed him in a pitiful condition and he was taken to St. Vincent's Hospital, where he later died.

His story, as taken down by a stenographer in the hospital, follows:

"At 8:50 Tuesday morning the levee broke. I think it was the Lewiston reservoir. The water swept the town and was halted on the northeast by the levee. The water then traveled in a sheet to the east, passing over the city. A panic followed. People ran to the tops of buildings and were brushed off like flies. The water kept rising. My wife and I jumped on top of a small house that was rushing past us.

"We were in a second-story window of the Algonquin Hotel. The flood carried us south. We passed bodies. There were some live people, too. We were stopped two miles from the city.

"We stayed on the house all day. At night fires started. The parts of the houses above the water burned up. There were people who had taken refuge in the attics of their homes. These must have been killed. My four children were home. We lived on North Main street. We saw the top of our house burn.

"In the middle of the night we heard explosions. My wife couldn't stand it. She jumped off the house we were on. The flood took her away. Then the house I was on alone started to drift again. It kept on.

HEARD THE PEOPLE CRYING

"I don't remember what happened for a number of hours. I found myself on the west side of the flood. Dayton was burning and they were blowing up buildings. I heard the people crying above the roar of the flood and the explosions. I kept on going, and then a train picked me up."

Later he became incoherent. "I'm going home—I'm going home. Let me go home. Oh, God," he shouted, and Ellis went "home" to his wife and his four children, who died in the fire and flood at Dayton.

GIRL RIDES SWIMMING HORSE

While the survivors were being cared for the pathos of the flood came to light in stories told by many. Occasionally the tragedy was made the more dramatic through contrast with an incident full of humor and romance.

Of the thousands of remarkable escapes the experience of Miss Flossie Lester, a stenographer, who was marooned on an overturned moving van in Edgemont, a suburb of Dayton, was considered one of the oddest. With several men, Miss Lester mounted on a passing van when the flood came. The van was soon overturned and the party thrown into the icy water.

The horses that had been hauling the van broke loose and separated, swimming for their lives. One of them passed close to Miss Lester, who grasped a dangling

strap and succeeded in climbing astride the animal's back.

For more than a mile and a half Miss Lester clung with her arms about the horse's neck until it reached a high approach of the levee near a farmhouse. Here Miss Lester fell unconscious to the ground. She was taken in by the farmer's family. The horse was taken to the barn.

Miss Lester told rescuers that she would buy the horse if its owner could be found.

LIVE LONG ON GRAPEFRUIT

Mrs. Clinton Wallace and her three children, at 3 Zinck avenue, Dayton, had an experience of another kind. They were marooned without food until rescued Friday night. They subsisted on grapefruit, a box of which they caught as it floated up to the window.

FOUND SISTER ON A ROOF

C. H. Pfeffer, treasurer, and C. D. Gutlip, division superintendent of a Detroit automobile company, who hurried as best they could through the flooded districts from the Michigan metropolis to Dayton to rescue Pfeffer's sister, found her Friday. She and another woman, both with babies in arms, were discovered on the roof of the former's home in Riverdale, their feet resting on the eaves-trough.

There was seven feet of water in Riverdale, Mr. Pfeffer said, and 300 or 400 persons were marooned in

second stories. He offered to take a boat load from one house, but as there was not room for every one none would leave their perches.

ELEPHANTS DROWN

There were eight elephants among Peru's victims of the overflowing waters. The elephants were a part of the Wallace-Hagenbeck menagerie, which has winter quarters two miles outside of Peru. Their keepers feared to free them, and chained to the ground the big beasts drowned.

SAVES FORMER ENEMY

In Logansport, Michael Fansler, prosecuting attorney, was prominent among the leaders of the rescue work and incidentally figured, almost at the cost of his life, in the most dramatic incident of the flood. He and John Johnson, the postmaster, were in a boat with two women, each of whom had a baby in her arms. The boat capsized in six feet of water.

The prosecutor grabbed one of the women and her babe and caught a protruding telephone pole. From this position the prosecutor was rescued by a man whom he had tried only a few months before to put into the penitentiary.

Fansler's rescuer was enabled to assist him by the aid of a rope which his wife was holding from the second-story window of their home near by. The postmaster was saved by the sensational effort of a Chicago

traveling man, D. L. McClure, who dived from the second floor of the Barnett hotel.

NARROWLY ESCAPE DEATH

During the worst day of the flood at Logansport some one sent broadcast a report that the Celina dam had broken.

"Run for your lives," was the message which flashed across the roofs. Bells and whistles were sounded in alarm. There were instances where the alarmed actually jumped into the torrents which circled their homes and would have drowned but for the patrolling boats.

REFUSED A RESCUE—DEAD!

Simultaneously with the identification of three flood victims, an aged woman and a married couple, at Columbus, came the story of how Wilber Morris, living at 361 Glenwood avenue, first fled from the onsweeping waters to the hilltop, then waded back waist deep, through the swift current and unsuccessfully begged Mr. and Mrs. Walter C. Howard and Miss Cordelia A. Carrager, aged seventy-four, to desert their home. They stoutly insisted that they were provisioned for a siege and that they were not afraid. All three met death.

OLD MAN FOUND INSANE

Semi-conscious, his name beyond the pale of memory, an old man, aged seventy years, was found dying from illness and exposure in a house on the flood-afflicted

West Side at Columbus. No one was found who could identify him and he was taken to an insane asylum.

SWEPT FROM THEIR ROOFS

Eyewitnesses at Columbus told of having stood in their homes on the West Side and watched many persons fall into the raging torrents as their heads hit against the lone rail left in position, while the roofs of houses upon which they were floating passed through a break in the high embankment of the Baltimore & Ohio tracks. Some of the houses in passing through the large opening were dashed to pieces.

COULDN'T EAT THE DRUGS

Fifty-two persons were taken out of a West Side drugstore at Columbus, where they had been marooned four days. Their supplies had given out and they were suffering from hunger.

SAVED THE FAMILY COW

Here's the prize story of how one family prepared against starvation when the flood came up. It comes from the home of George Roller, 79 Dakota avenue, in the heart of the flooded West Side at Columbus. When they saw the flood coming they persuaded the family cow to enter the kitchen and ushered her upstairs, where they gave her a private room. They also laid in a supply of corn and hay. Result: Plenty of fresh milk and some to spare to the neighbors. Another family took

their chickens into the house and not only saved the chickens but had plenty of fresh eggs.

REVIVED IN A MORGUE

Taken from a tree and supposed to be dead, C. A. Turney of 355 Glenwood avenue, Columbus, was removed to the temporary morgue at Greenlawn cemetery, to await identification. A small boy standing by thought he detected a slight motion in Turney's body and called the doctor's attention to it. Restoratives were quickly applied and after heroic work, Turney was returned to consciousness and taken to the home of friends.

SAVED BY YOUNG SAILORS

More than a score of persons were rescued from perilous positions in treetops and on the roofs of houses in the flooded district between Logansport and Peru by men from the United States naval training station at Chicago, Ill., according to advices received by Captain G. R. Clark, commander at the station, from the Logansport relief committee.

The naval station men left early Thursday, March 28, in command of Lieutenant John J. London, for the stricken Indiana cities. There were fifty of the recruits and they took with them six boats provisioned for a cruise of six or eight days. Their special train was given the right of way direct to Logansport, this part of the programme being arranged by the Chicago Association of Commerce.

When the recruits arrived at Logansport their boats were at once placed in the flood waters and the men began their work. They carried aid to many flood-marooned persons lacking food and conveyed others in more dangerous positions to places of safety.

FIREMEN FORCED TO FLY

A story of the break of the levee at Dayton and the onrush of the waters was told by Edy Vicent, a member of the fire department No. 2. The fire house is located within a few doors of Taylor street, where the first break occurred.

The department watchers, fearing being flood-bound, sounded the fire call simultaneously with the break in the water wall.

"When the horses, which were hitched in record time, reached the street," he said, "we were met by a wall of water which must have been ten feet high. The driver was forced to turn and flee in the opposite direction to save the team and the apparatus."

A MILLION RATIONS SENT BY U. S.

Supplies ordered March 26 by the Secretary of War to be rushed to the scenes of the flood disasters in Ohio, Indiana and Nebraska included the following items:

To Columbus, O.: One million rations, each ration being a day's supply for one person; twenty thousand cots; four thousand tents; thirty thousand blankets; one hundred hospital tents; four hundred stoves; five thou-

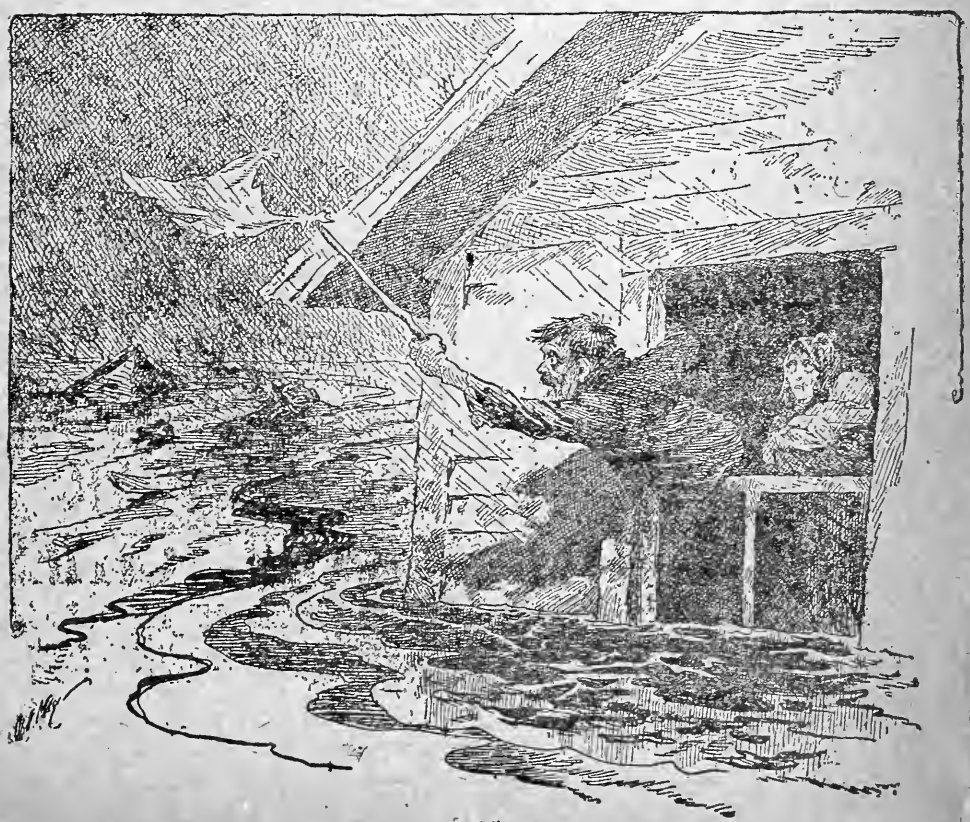
sand cans of milk for the younger children; five hundred boxes of reserved dressing; ten thousand vaccine points; five thousand anti-typhoid vaccine units.

For Omaha, Neb.: Four hundred hospital tents; one thousand blankets.

JACOB RIIS DELAYED

"The worst damage I saw was at Elkhart, Ind.," said Jacob Riis of New York, who was to have spoken at Orchestra Hall, Chicago, on March 25, but who arrived in Chicago a day too late. "We got as far west as Columbus and there were delayed because of weak-

ONE CASE OUT OF FIFTY THOUSAND!



ened bridges. When it became known that they could not be repaired we were re-routed to Cleveland and there took the Lake Shore. I did not see much water until we got to Elkhart. There a portion of the poorer residence district was inundated and many houses wrecked. No lives were lost so far as I know. When I knew that I could not keep my engagement in Chicago I tried to send a telegram telling of the delay, but wires were down."

THE SWITCHBOARD HEROINE

For every Jack Binns afloat there is a telephone heroine ashore, said the Boston, Mass., *Journal* on March 27. She stays at her post sending warnings throbbing over her wires, while fire cuts her off from the avenues of escape through which others have hurried, and she keeps plugging in calls until floods racing down upon her break her connections with the outside world. Several times in late years the tale written by Elizabeth Stuart Phelps has been duplicated in actual life. The latest case of vigil and devotion at the switchboard comes from the Miami valley. The girls who kept their wires humming while the waters surged down upon them and who flashed the last tidings out of stricken Dayton did as brave a thing as ever does the cavalryman who gallops into the midst of enemies with 600 others riding with him, knee to knee.

RECOVERED ALL HIS FAMILY

With the rapid subsiding of the flood waters and dissipating of panic among refugees at Dayton, thrilling adventures continued coming to light. Among the most interesting of these were the experiences of the family of Charles M. Adams in Riverdale. When the flood first rushed through that section of the city Mr. Adams got his wife and 10-month-old twin girls into a skiff and took them to the home of a friend in Warder street.

An hour later it was again necessary to move and the family was taken by rescuers out of a second-story window. The canoe in which they were being transported was dashed against a telegraph pole by the terrific current and capsized. Adams swam bravely in the icy water for a few minutes when he was picked up by some men in a flat boat.

Just before he was rescued he saw his wife sink for the third time. The baby girls were floating down the street. Then he collapsed. Three hours later he regained consciousness to find himself in an attic and beside him on the floor lay his wife, whom he believed to have been drowned. A few minutes later a man crawled into the attic window from the floating roof of a barn, bringing with him the twins. They had caught in the branches of a tree and were picked off unhurt by the man, who was riding to safety on the roof. Mrs. Adams was rescued by a high school boy on a hast

improvised raft. The lad was a member of the Riverdale troop of the boy scouts and had been trained how to administer first aid to the drowning.

ONE FAMILY OF SIX IN MORGUE

A family named Porter, six in number, lay in the Riverdale morgue on Sunday, March 30. They left their home on the outskirts of the city when warning of the flood was brought there. They were overwhelmed and drowned on the road, while the flood missed the home they had deserted.

Harold Ridgley, a popular young man of Riverdale, lost his own life after saving thirteen families. In seeking to recover a lost oar his frail skiff tipped too much and sank.

At the Van Cleve school building in Riverdale there was a $10,000 cook engaged in the inartistic task of making bean soup, coffee and sandwiches and superintending the distribution of the same. He is the chef of the leading hotel of Dayton, and composes menus of tempting savor with French names attached, or did before the deluge. The flood carried away his home and for several days he presided over soup and sandwiches with dignity unimpaired.

SEE HOUSE DASHED TO PIECES

Survivors recalled that shortly before noon Tuesday watchers on the hills of Dayton View, a fashionable

residence section of the city, saw a frame house float from its foundations above the Dayton View bridge across the Miami. Just before the structure reached the bridge a door opened and a man was seen to look out, shading his eyes with his hand. Beside him stood a woman and behind them in the room of the cottage appeared another woman with a baby in her arms. The watchers shouted warnings to the man to jump into the river and take a chance of being rescued. Their cries evidently were unheard. The man closed the door. A moment later the cottage crashed into a concrete pier of the bridge and was broken into bits. Nothing was ever seen again of the occupants.

SEALSKIN COAT SENT BY MISTAKE

An amusing incident in connection with the receipt of relief supplies was a dispatch from Dr. McGrudder of Baltimore, addressed to General Devine of the American Red Cross at Washington, and by him forwarded to Dayton, in which it was said that among the contributions of clothing from the Maryland city was a woman's sealskin coat, valued at $1,000, which the owner's maid had included by mistake. The coat has not been found.

GOOD WORK BY FARMERS

Among the largest contributors to the city's needs at a time when food was most precious were the hundreds of farmers near Dayton, who went to the out-

skirts of the city every day after the flood broke with wagon loads of milk, eggs, potatoes and other vegetables. It was due to this that the mortality among infants dependent entirely upon milk for sustenance was not large.

BRINGS HER SNOW SHOVEL

John Stone, 78 Victor street, was one of the large number of volunteer life savers in Riverdale. He rescued a woman from the second-story window of a house in Linwood street who insisted in bringing with her a snow shovel. Clutching the shovel to her breast, she sat in the stern sheets of Stone's boat, alternately singing a hymn and laughing hysterically. In attempting to round a street corner where a torrent poured in from a cross street, the boat struck an electric light pole and Stone lost the paddle with which he was propelling his craft.

"God told me!" shouted the woman, a Mrs. Clemens. "He told me. Now use the shovel."

Stone managed to paddle his boat with the shovel to a place of safety.

MILLIONAIRE IN BREAD LINE

It is said that in the bread line at Dayton was Eugene J. Barney, a millionaire, whose gifts to charity have been very large and recently included $25,000 to the Y. M. C. A. of Dayton. He obtained three loaves of bread and a small sack of potatoes.

HEROIC WORK OF PHONE MEN

Two employes of the American Telegraph and Telephone Company, M. B. Stohl, wire chief at Dayton, and C. D. Williamson, wire chief at Phoneton, by almost unprecedented devotion to duty kept Dayton in touch with the outside world.

At noon Wednesday they had been on duty for thirty-six hours, and, although there were no prospects of their being relieved, they gave not the slightest indications of an inclination to leave their posts.

Mr. Stohl reached the Dayton office just before the flood broke in the small hours of Tuesday morning. The water came with such suddenness that all batteries and power were put out of commission before any measures could be taken to protect them. This left the wires without current and effectually cut off Dayton from the outside world.

WORKS WITH A "TEST SET"

Stohl rummaged around and found a lineman's "test set." With this he made his way to the roof of the building, "cut in" on the line to Phoneton and reported to Williamson, whose batteries were still in condition. Over this meager equipment messages were exchanged by means of the underground wires of the company, which held up until after the noon hour March 26, before the cable in which they were incased gave way. The

break, however, was south of Dayton and Phoneton was still in touch with the flood stricken city.

RAILROADS LOSE $50,000,000

The national calamity—as President Wilson termed the tragedy of the deluge—probably cost the railways traversing the flooded states $50,000,000, according to "Boersianer," financial editor of the Chicago Examiner. This estimate includes contingent as well as capital loss; damage to perishable freight; the expense of increased crews, of widely circuitous detours; of abandoned and delayed traffic; of congestions; of restoration; of reconstruction and of replacements.

The heaviest blow falls on the Baltimore & Ohio through the Cincinnati, Hamilton & Dayton Railway. The former virtually controls the latter. It guarantees the Dayton's fixed charges. Dayton, Hamilton, Piqua, Lima, Miamisburg—almost all the inundated towns and cities are on the C., H. & D., which has a mileage of 1,000 miles, and of which the greater part was under water.

MESSAGES FROM RULERS

King George of England cabled to President Wilson April 1, 1913, as follows:

"I am greatly distressed at the news of the disastrous floods and the grievous loss of life caused by them. I desire to express to your excellency my

deepest sympathy with yourself and the people of the United States in your misfortune."

President Wilson replied:

"Allow me, in the name of the people and government of the United States, to express deep appreciation of your majesty's kind message of condolence."

CABLE FROM KING OF ITALY

King Victor Emmanuel of Italy cabled:

"On hearing the news of the floods that have devastated prosperous regions and made so many victims, I beg you to believe in the sentiment of sincere and deep sympathy with which I join in your country's mourning."

President Wilson responded:

"Your majesty's touching words of sympathy in the terrible loss of life and property which has befallen many American homes are a real solace to the government and people of the United States."

Other reigning sovereigns also cabled their sympathy with the flood sufferers.

DEAD IN THE FLOOD

On March 30 the latest reports showed the following deaths from the floods in Ohio and Indiana:

OHIO		INDIANA	
Dayton	150	Peru	20
Columbus	64	Brookville	16
Hamilton (estimated)	50	Fort Wayne	6
Miamisburg (est'd)	50	Terre Haute	4
Tiffin	18	Washington	4
Chillicothe	18	Frankfort	2
Middletown	14	Logansport	1
Fremont	14	Rushville	1
Piqua	13	Muncie	1
Harrison	12	Lafayette	1
Troy	9	New Castle	1
Valley Jct.	6	East Mt. Carmel	1
Zanesville	10	Shelburn	1
Massillon	5		
New Bethlehem	2	Indiana total	59
Cleves	2		
Ohio total	437	Grand total	496

No less than 175,000 people were rendered homeless in the state of Ohio and the total property loss and damage in that state was officially estimated, April 1, at $300,000,000.

CHAPTER X

THE FLOOD AT COLUMBUS

Imagine yourself at the top of a perfectly safe skyscraper looking over ninety square miles of water punctured by thousands of homes—15,000 or 20,000, at least—swirling water carrying them away one by one, or sometimes literally in swarms, and you will have some conception of what we saw in Columbus Tuesday and Wednesday, March 25 and 26, said Glenn Marston, a correspondent of the Chicago Journal, who was at Columbus, Ohio, at the height of the flood there. Bridges crashed at our feet—a new one every hour.

With our field glasses we could see thousands of people on roofs and in windows as effectively cut off from the world as they would have been in the moon.

They were absolutely helpless. So were we. No boat could live a moment in the rushing current, which took houses, bridges, railway tracks, telegraph poles—everything—in its overwhelming sweep.

There were 50,000 people living in this area the day before. The refugees reporting to the city hall numbered about 1,500. There were supposed to be about

5,000 on a hilltop on the west edge of the city. The rest were still clinging to housetops, trees and poles in the isolated area.

To add to the horrors of Tuesday, fire broke out in half a dozen places. Nothing but the water-soaked roofs saved the district. Some of the burning houses were in water to the second story, and so the flames, while destructive enough where they started, could not spread far. The fire department was helpless. There were billions of gallons of water and not a drop which could be used. Many of the fires could not be approached closely enough to determine their exact location.

Meanwhile people were fleeing to the city hall—those lucky enough to get away. I led one poor soul, clad in a calico wrapper, with a 5-year-old boy held by one hand and a babe in the other. She knew nothing of her husband and nobody could help her.

Considering the conditions, the efficiency of the relief work was astounding. Every refugee was told to report to the city hall. Here the name was entered on a blue card, which also contained the home address, the names of the relatives for whom the refugee was looking, the address to which the refugee was sent, and the amount of clothing and number of meal tickets allotted. The search for missing ones was greatly simplified by the cross indexing of the names.

But still there were thousands marooned on the West

Side. The bridges were all out but one. The prisoners in the workhouse had to be removed. The penitentiary was six to ten feet under water. New fires were breaking out, not dangerous, as it turned out, but enough to completely upset already overwrought nerves.

SEES WHOLE LEVEE WASHED AWAY

As I stood in my skyscraper window, I saw the levee which protected the entire West Side suddenly melt into the river. I saw a dozen men, linemen from the telegraph companies, apparently, struggle to keep the poles up. It was hopeless. As I was looking, the poles began to drop.

One struck a group of linemen, the connecting wires felling them in all directions. One went into the water. He was not seen afterward.

The great Pennsylvania four-track right of way, part of the finest roadbed in America, melted away like salt. The tracks on the west side of Columbus look like a handful of tangled string thrown into a puddle.

Then came the panic. Wednesday afternoon the word started somewhere that the great fifty-foot-high storage dam five miles up the Scioto had given way. If it was so 25 billion cubic feet of water was coming. A half-crazy negro rushed into the Chittenden hotel and shouted, "The dam's out! Everybody get on high ground!"

FIGHT TO REACH CAPITOL DOME

People went crazy. In three seconds the lobby was cleared of its 150 occupants. Three minutes after the alarm, there were 6,000 people in the statehouse, most of them struggling for the dome. Of all places!

But the dam had not gone out. It was hours, however, before things were back to the normal abnormality of relieving the refugees and rescuing those imprisoned. The panic had even reached the boatmen who had just begun to venture among the wrecked houses.

The city was without trains, without telegraph, without telephone service, without lights or street cars and without water. The city light plant will leave the streets in darkness for weeks. The first to recover from the disaster was the Railway and Light company. It had lights burning again in fifteen minutes, though all users were requested to economize in using electricity. Twenty cars were running two hours later.

Those who could afford mineral waters could drink in safety. Those who could not had to go thirsty or take chances of infection from any kind of disease. There were three or four elevators working, none in the hotels.

HOW LIVES WERE LOST

Half the houses on the West Side have toppled over or been carried away completely. Nearly all of these contained people who tried to swim to other houses.

It must be that many could not swim, and that many

who could swim were swept under by the current. One could only get an idea of the strength of that raging flood when the great bridges, weighing hundreds of thousands of pounds, floated down stream hundreds of feet before sinking out of sight. Imagine trying to swim! Imagine trying to row a park skiff!

It was on Thursday that the boats began to pick up bodies. Boats which had carried these same people on pleasure jaunts last summer had been turned into funeral craft. A head which had lain on soft cushions and looked up into some loved one's face, now lay stark and staring, uncushioned, bound for the undertaker. A ghastly work for picnic boats!

DESPERATE EFFORTS TO FIGHT FIRE

There was an attempt made to fight one fire. The firemen crossed the Broad street bridge, carrying their hose with them; then they had to thread their way along the eighteen-inch core wall of the levee, which had not gone out at this point. By stringing two blocks of hose they were able to reach the fire.

Every man who crossed that bridge took his life in his hands. Every man who stepped on that core wall knew that his weight might be enough to make it give away and send him and his companions to eternity.

Ten feet from the end of the bridge a group of five-story buildings had toppled over into the current a half hour before. After an hour's weary work the hose was

stretched and a stream of water came from the nozzle. It lasted a few seconds and then died to nothing. That was the moment when the water had put out the last fire in the boiler room of the water works.

Of course the railroads were in a terrible state. At the Union station there were dozens of through trains which could neither go forward nor backward. The passengers were all united in praising the companies for the treatment they received. Every passenger was fed and all berths in every Pullman car were made up each night. For those who could not sleep in the cars, the railroads provided other quarters without expense to the passengers.

The train I took was the first one to Chicago. We got in 71½ hours late. In order to get this train, we had to be transferred from the city to the prairie far outside of the city. It was a drive of several miles. There, out in the open, lay a train. The locomotive had to run backward for some time, and meanwhile the passengers had to wrap up in overcoats and stamp around to keep warm, for there was no steam, and the thermometer was hovering around the freezing point.

LAST BRIDGE GOES DOWN

We had, in order to get to this train, which was on the west side of the river, to cross a bridge at Fifth avenue, the only bridge left standing by which most of the West Side could be reached. As we pulled out there

was a constant stream of wagons going across, carrying food and clothing to the sufferers. But when I reached Toledo, I read that this bridge, the last link between the sufferers and the safe part of the city, had gone out. We were lucky to get away when we did, and luckier still that the bridge did not go down when we were on it.

All morning, relief wagons and automobiles had been rushed across at top speed. The bridge began to show weakness then, and soldiers were stationed at each end. They cut down all vehicles to a walking pace and allowed only two at a time to cross. Apparently even this light load was sufficient to jar the supports of the bridge until it tired of its work and sank to rest with its companions in the bed of the river.

The district that was most damaged is called the "old river bed," because of a belief that the river once flowed over a mile west of where the channel now is. This area had thirty to forty feet of water over it in some places. Two-story houses floated down as if they were chips.

West Broad street, the main east and west thoroughfare, was a scene of heartrending desolation. Far out stood a half submerged street car which was abandoned by its crew when the levee broke. In places the street was completely filled with floating houses and wreckage.

Nobody can even guess the loss. To say "millions" gives no conception of the ravages of the water. A large

part of the prosperous wholesale district was on the West Side. Of each industry it is probably safe to say that the loss is "millions." Certainly the railroad losses will be that, as will the losses of the light and street car company. The ice and cold storage company lost its plant and over $100,000 worth of foodstuffs. Hundreds of houses, worth anywhere from $1,000 up, are gone—completely. Other hundreds are standing and worthless. Others can be repaired.

I have seen fires, floods and avalanches before, but nothing to compare with this. There is nothing in one's imagination to compare to such a disaster. One must go through it. There was a hotel full of people without any conveniences whatever—back to the primitive—and yet there was never a murmur of discontent—the sights and sounds across the river so dwarfed our petty inconveniences that we forgot them—considered ourselves lucky to be alive. We at least had a roof and good food, even though there was five feet of water in the basement.

One bright spot in the gloom of Columbus was the action of the Chicago Association of Commerce. Even before the Columbus council had met to appropriate money, before the legislature had voted a penny, there came the magnificent offer of the Association of Commerce with its $100,000 fund for the relief of the suffering.

CHAPTER XI

THE FLOOD AT PIQUA

The rising waters at Piqua, Ohio, situated on the Miami north of Dayton, were at first believed to have engulfed many victims, the early reports stating that the death list would reach at least 200. But scores of sensational rescues from what seemed certain death in the raging flood torrents served to limit the fatality list, which was finally placed at twenty or thereabouts. Many houses were wrecked and for several days the homeless suffered severely.

Relief measures were promptly taken by the city authorities. The property loss was great, as most of the manufacturing plants were destroyed. A company of the National Guard assisted in maintaining order in Piqua and caring for the destitute.

Two hundred and fifty houses were found in ruins and at least 2,500 persons homeless. The residence district, known as East Piqua, was devastated. Many living there trusted to the high levee, which was believed unbreakable, and remained in their homes until too late to flee.

The only direct means of communication with the rest of the state for some time was through Bradford, to which a light engine, borrowed from a Pennsylvania relief train, made almost hourly trips on Friday, March 28.

Hundreds of citizens enrolled by the Y. M. C. A. and Business Men's Association were sworn in as special deputies and assisted in caring for the sufferers. The Y. M. C. A., the city hospital and other buildings housed numbers of refugees.

Shawnee, across the river from Piqua, virtually was washed away. More than twenty houses were destroyed there.

W. W. Wood, in charge of the relief work of the Citizens' League, in a summary of conditions formulated after a thorough search of the inundated section of the city, declared that between 1,200 and 1,500 persons had been taken out of perilous places to safety and that twenty bodies were all that could be found.

RESCUERS FACE PERIL

Many of the rescues were made at hazardous risks of the heroic life-savers, men, women and children being taken from flood-tossed roofs, crumbling houses, tree tops and floating debris.

The water supply and lighting plant were restored to service on March 29 and three carloads of provisions for the stricken inhabitants had been received from

Union City and Winchester. More provisions were necessary, however, before conditions were restored so that Piqua could take care of its own.

Though the authorities were overjoyed that their fears of a death list reaching into the hundreds were unfounded, the property loss was a staggering one for the community. Two hundred houses in Rossville, Shawnee and that part of Piqua near the canal were swept to destruction.

UNDER MARTIAL LAW

"The city is under martial law," said Mr. Wood on Saturday following the flood, "patrol duty being conducted by companies A and C of the Third Ohio Regiment. Relief for the suffering is being carried on with system and dispatch. In addition to the local damage the Pennsylvania bridge across the Miami is down and no mail has reached the city since the day before the flood."

THE CITY OF PIQUA

Piqua, Ohio, a city of Miami County, on Miami River and the Miami and Erie Canal, in a rich agricultural section, 27 miles north of Dayton and 72 west of Columbus. It is served by a traction line from Toledo to Cincinnati and by the Pennsylvania and the Cincinnati, Hamilton & Dayton railway. It has good water-power from the Miami and Erie Canal. Its industries include large strawboard, hosiery and woolen

mills, furniture, carriage, stove and bent wood works. The American School Desk Co.'s factory is here, and also a corrugated iron works. Piqua has fine schools, churches, banks and a public library of 15,000 volumes. Population. 13,388.

TO THE RESCUE!

—N. Y. Herald.

CHAPTER XII

THE FLOOD AT TIFFIN

GRAPHIC STORY OF AN EYEWITNESS OF THE FLOOD AT ITS HEIGHT—INCIDENTS OF THE DELUGE THAT SWEPT MIGHTY BRIDGES AWAY.

Tiffin on Wednesday night, March 26, was a city of sorrow and desolation, paralyzed and grief-stricken, with a loss of a score or more of lives and a property loss close to $1,000,000. The electric light, water and gas plants were out of commission, and similar suffering and distress to that experienced at Dayton prevailed on all hands.

Mayor Keppell on Thursday wired Governor Cox, requesting a company of militia to relieve the corps of police and city firemen there, who were exhausted after sixty hours' work in rescuing flood victims.

Looting in the inundated districts was said to have assumed serious proportions and the local officials did not feel able to cope with the situation.

The Ursuline Convent and St. Francis Orphanage were thrown open to the refugees made homeless by the raging waters.

The two-story brick block of Austin J. Houck crumbled Thursday afternoon and was washed away.

All the banks at Tiffin informed the County Commissioner that they stood ready to furnish money to all who lost their belongings in the flood, and this alleviated the suffering of many of the homeless.

HOW THEY MET THEIR FATE

The known dead included Mr. and Mrs. W. D. Axline; Jacob and Clarence Kenecht and one child; Mr. and Mrs. George Klingshirn and seven children.

Here is how some of them died:

When the Axline residence was picked up by the flood and started careening down the river, watchers saw Axline and his wife standing in the window of the second story. Her head was pillowed on his shoulder. The cries of the wife could be heard above the rushing water.

HUSBAND AND WIFE DIE TOGETHER

Axline patted his wife on the back and kissed her. A moment later the house crashed into the Baltimore & Ohio bridge. It was splintered like a bundle of sticks. With their arms about each other, husband and wife disappeared beneath the raging waters.

When the home of Jacob Kenecht was swept away Mrs. Kenecht and her five children were in the dwelling. Kenecht was outside. When he was picked up by the current he grabbed the limb of a tree. He held on for fifteen minutes. Rescuers attempted to throw him a

line. Each time the wildly running water held the rope within a few inches of his outstretched arms.

Finally, exhausted and numbed by the cold, Kenecht gave up the fight against death. "Thanks, good-by, boys, I'm——" his last words were swallowed by the water that engulfed him.

A terrible blizzard raged over the stricken city Thursday, with a number of families still marooned in water-surrounded houses.

SAVES MANY FROM DEATH

That the death list was not swollen Wednesday by several more was due to the bold efforts of the Toledo life-saving crew with its three boats, and the Sandusky crew with its nine boats. These men saved many from death, braved danger in swirling currents and took desperate chances in rescuing families.

Until Monday morning, "Sailor Jack" Willis was an inconspicuous character. On Wednesday he was the city's hero. He took charge of the rescue work. The life-saving baskets and cables were made and operated under his orders. By stretching cables to a water-surrounded house the occupants, one by one, were brought to places of safety.

"Sailor Jack" personally saved ten people. And after sixty hours of work, with no rest, he dropped exhausted. A movement has been started to obtain for him a Carnegie medal.

Four women, two of whom were Mrs. A. W. Knott and daughter, were rescued from the roof of a barn on Water street by telephone linemen, who clung to the tops of the poles and swung lines to the women. The four were hauled to safety, hand over hand.

Regina Moltrie, school teacher, climbed a telephone pole when the flood struck her home. On her hands and knees she crawled across heavy cables to linemen, fifty feet above the rushing water.

FIVE RESCUED IN A BASKET

County Treasurer W. O. Heckert, his wife and three children were taken out of their home in a huge basket suspended to a cable. A life line was swung for a block and a half to save County Surveyor Charles Peters, his wife and child. The family relayed from building to building. Sixteen people marooned in the Bonette Hotel were taken out in baskets, as were ten girls, employes of a mitten factory.

The bodies of four children, three boys and a girl, were found near the Tiffin Wagon Works. It is believed they were washed down from Upper Sandusky.

Mrs. Josephine Wagner, eighty-four, laughed at warnings of a flood. She refused to move. An hour later firemen carried her down a ladder from the second story of her home.

CHAPTER XIII

INDIANAPOLIS FLOODED

The first terrors that gripped Indianapolis with the bursting of the dams and levees that held the White river, Fall creek and the Big and Little Eagle creeks in check, were abated Thursday, March 28, by the reports that the flood was abating.

The city proper, appalled by the tales of woe that came from across the river, had been unable to realize the extent of the misery and suffering caused by the flood in West Indianapolis and Moorefield. Here were quartered many of the working people of the town.

Seven thousand families lost their homes within a territory of fifteen miles. Penniless, bitten by the cold that set in, these refugees were huddled under improvised shelters. The food supply gave out and there was intense suffering.

In the city proper the greatest fear was of a possible fire. The water supply was cut off, and so every inhabitant shared in the distress of the homeless.

On March 28 food and clothing had been provided for many sufferers from the flood and the threatened

famine had been averted. Many were in need of aid, however, and relief work was being carried on as rapidly as possible. The belief that the catastrophe caused a great loss of life was maintained for several days, although an estimate could not be obtained from any source, but later the early reports were found to have been based on fear, and the death list was not large.

The White river and several creeks, which surround the business district of Indianapolis, ordinarily little streams and dry in summer, early in the week became raging torrents, sweeping everything in their paths. When the street car service was stopped at noon Tuesday, it trapped thousands in the business district. Some bridges became unsafe and were closed to traffic and the waters sweeping over the others defied vehicles and pedestrians. Hotels of the city were crowded to their utmost. As many as ten persons slept in a room. The Y. W. C. A. was thrown open to working girls and school girls. who were unable to reach their homes.

The experiences in West Indianapolis were similar to those elsewhere and many stories of thrilling rescues from death and danger were reported. After the flood the city set at once bravely to work at the task of rebuilding, in which committees of business men lent noble aid.

CHAPTER XIV

THE FLOOD AT PERU

"At 7 o'clock, Monday, March 24, all the lights in the city of Peru, Ind., went out," said an eyewitness of flood conditions in that city. "Soon afterwards the water works was flooded out of commission. We went to bed by candlelight, only to find that there was no heat. The fires were drowned out."

Tuesday morning the flood waters descended and Peru shared the fate of many sister cities in Indiana and Ohio. Then followed 48 hours of abject misery for most of the inhabitants. The scene was described by one sufferer thus:

"With the trees, houses, bloated bodies of horses, dogs, and even human beings floating around, nothing to drink except the muddy yellow slop of the flood, full of sticks, straw, sand and chicken feathers, no light except candles, no heat, although the chill of the water is clammy and penetrating, and the supply of provisions, except canned goods, running low, Peru was a scene of horror. The town is situated on a level spot along the Wabash, with the court house, where a great crowd had sought refuge and were sleeping and eating huddled together, the highest spot for a mile in any direction. You could just see

the tops of the houses in South Peru, across the river. The swollen river was from half a mile to three or four miles wide and the current was running about 25 miles an hours."

A blinding snowstorm, which appeared to have swept the entire northern part of the State, sent terror to the hearts of sufferers. Two thousand people in the courthouse, made ill by the filth in the building, strove for permission to get into the streets. Those on the single square not yet submerged in their turn prayed for shelter from the blinding storm.

WAILING IN THE NIGHT

All through the night from the steps of the courthouse could be heard the wails of the people in the street. And as the moans and shrieks of the sufferers floated across the muddy waters groans from those within the temporary refuge joined.

On Thursday a relief party from South Bend, headed by Lieutenant-Governor William T. O'Neill, reached Peru. The organization of rescue squads started and people were moved to places of safety.

CHAPTER XV

OTHER CITIES FLOODED

Details of the Deluge in Many Towns in Ohio, Indiana and Elsewhere.

Of the thousands of fatalities in the catastrophes of the last half century in this country probably more were due to floods than to any other single cause. Rising waters, with destruction of property, have been common from year to year in many valleys. Almost invariably, however, it has been possible to warn inhabitants of the low areas adjoining rivers. Most of the destruction of life by water has occurred in connection with the breaking of dams or levees, from which cities and villages have been inundated. This was the case in many places that suffered from the never-to-be-forgotten floods of March, 1913.

In Ohio the first call for help was received by Governor Cox from Larue, in Marion County, early Tuesday morning, March 25. Appeals soon followed from Columbus, Delaware, Prospect and Dayton, the latter town reporting through the Red Cross at Washington.

In Indiana Governor Ralston received reports of flood damage March 25 and 26 from many points,

including Peru, West Indianapolis, Terre Haute, Fort Wayne, Logansport, Brookville, Washington, Frankfort, Muncie, Lafayette, Newcastle, Rushville and Shelburn. Many homeless refugees required aid and prompt measures were taken for their assistance. Governor Ralston personally superintending the state aid.

Flood damage was by no means confined to the states of Ohio and Indiana. Many Illinois towns also suffered from the high stage of water. For several days Cairo, Ill., was threatened with the worst flood in its history and Chicago troops were ordered by Governor Dunne to aid in fighting off the danger. From cities as widely sundered as Albany, New York, and Grand Forks, North Dakota, came reports of damage by high water. The general conditions in many of these cities and towns is described below.

AKRON, OHIO

Mayor Frank W. Rockwell of Akron, Ohio, reported as follows:

"Flood conditions are bad, but fortunately for us, not so bad as reported at Dayton, Columbus and some other cities. The Little Cuyahoga River overflowed, cutting new channels and carrying to destruction about twenty-five dwellings and saloons, all city bridges and doing immense damage to the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad and county fair grounds.

"The Ohio Canal also overflowed its banks and caused heavy damage through the business district.

"Several lives have been reported lost, but I know of only two cases.

"Akron can take care of the public loss, but contributions for the benefit of individuals who have suffered loss and are needy would be acceptable."

DELAWARE, OHIO

With a score of persons reported dead—swept away in the flooded Olentangy River—many others missing, and between 300 and 400 families homeless, this city of 10,000 inhabitants was cut off from surrounding

territory March 25, with the exception of a crippled telegraph service.

The flooded condition of the town made rescue and relief work difficult. Mayor B. V. Leas was reported drowned, but saved himself by catching hold of the roof of a shed in a lumber yard. Life savers from Toledo did good work in rescuing the marooned.

CELINA, OHIO

Loss of life and $800,000 damage to property were reported from Celina, Ohio, when the flood subsided March 29. Many residences were destroyed and the flooded district was the scene of many pathetic incidents. A number of persons were unaccounted for March 29. The National Guard of Ohio was called in to aid the relief work.

CINCINNATI, OHIO

At Cincinnati the river reached almost the seventy-foot stage March 29 and was rising an inch and a half an hour. Twelve thousand persons were homeless in the neighboring towns of Covington and Newport. Business houses in Front street, Cincinnati, were flooded and on Second street some of the places were damaged.

Sixty business houses in Newport and Covington were under water. The suspension bridge between Cincinnati and Covington, Ky., was under water and communication between the two places was cut.

The village of Cleves, a suburb of Cincinnati, on the Great Miami River, was flooded March 25, when the embankment fill, over which the traction lines operated and which served as a levee, gave way and slid into the swirling waters. The flood instantly found an outlet and swept over the lower portion of the village, inundating the entire section.

The villagers had but slight warning and families were forced to rush to upper floors and to housetops to get out of the reach of the flood.

FREMONT, OHIO

The estimated property loss at Fremont, Ohio, was $2,000,000, the flood having done great damage in the business district. The number of known deaths by drowning was two, Isaac Flora, captain in charge of the Port Clinton fishermen, drowned while trying to rescue marooned people, and Henry Homan, swept from his home.

Two companies of Ohio state troops aided in the task of rescue and relief. A statement in the local press March 28 was typical of the spirit of the flooded cities. It said:

"Fremont is today making a heroic effort to arise and recover from the most appalling disaster in the history of the city—a disaster that has left wreck, ruin, desolation, suffering and sadness on all sides."

HAMILTON, OHIO

"Tragedy on every side." This was the description given of the conditions at Lindenwald, a suburb of Hamilton, O., where fifty persons were believed to have met their death. It was a common sight, on March 25, to see men, women and children sitting on tops of houses, praying to be assisted to places of safety. In many parts of the town the residents were compelled to chop holes in the roofs of their homes in order to escape the onrush of the water.

When darkness fell over the city the condition became desperate. The rescuers were hampered and it was impossible to get to the persons who had been unable to leave their homes.

HARRISON, OHIO

Twelve persons at least met with a tragic fate in the flood at Harrison, Ohio, near Cincinnati. The village caught the full force of the overflowing Whitewater River, which went through its banks, flooded the old canal and went over into the streets. The water reached the Central Hotel and was five feet deep on State street.

There was a sea of water over the lowlands of the Miami and the Whitewater miles in width, extending from Lawrenceburg and Elizabethtown to the eastward at Cleves.

The entire farming community of the lower end of the Whitewater Valley was under water, the inhabitants being compelled to flee to the highlands for their lives. A large part of this farming land was being prepared for the spring sowing, and the loss to the farmers was beyond repair.

MIDDLETOWN, OHIO

Fourteen deaths were reported at Middletown, Ohio, as the result of the flood, and the property loss was estimated at $1,500,000.

ZANESVILLE, OHIO

When the flood waters receded at Zanesville, Ohio, where great loss of life had been first reported, the number of deaths from drowning was placed at five. The property loss was estimated at several millions. Half of the city was under water during the flood. Many buildings collapsed and the city was further endangered by several fires. The city was placed under martial law.

The big Sixth street bridge was swept away by the flood and at least 2,000 persons were driven from their homes by the high water.

BROOKVILLE, IND.

Sixteen deaths were reported at Brookville, Franklin County, Ind., March 28. The victims were caught in the conflux of the east and west forks of the Whitewater river, which meet in that town. Survivors tell of

attempts of men, women and children to escape by the light of lanterns after the electric light plant had been swamped. Cross currents along streets and alleys carried them down to a united stream a mile wide, just south of the town.

Five children, all of one family, were seen clinging to posts of an old fashioned wooden bed, when they were swept into the main stream and lost.

Five large wagon bridges, the Big Four railroad bridge, the station and a paper mill were destroyed. Fifty summer houses on Whitewater river, south of Brookville, were carried away and much other damage done.

The survivors gathered in the churches almost immediately after the disaster and prayed that some of those who were in the water's path might have escaped.

FORT WAYNE, IND.

More than 3,000 homes in the three low-lying suburbs of Fort Wayne were submerged, the last to go under being Lakeside, which was protected by dikes along the St. Joseph and Maumee rivers. There were frequent breaks in each dike and the water flowed into the second-story windows of the homes.

Four suburbs were under water—Spy Run, Nebraska, Bloomingdale and Lakeside. One person was drowned. Hundreds of the rescued spent the night in the courthouse, the Elks' Temple and the churches.

The bakeries and meat markets of the city supplied them with food free of charge, but hundreds of little children were crying with thirst, as the water plants were put out of commission. The emergency reservoir was cut off to save the water for use in case of fire.

Relief work was promptly organized and efficient aid given to the homeless and other sufferers. More than 3,000 homes were damaged and the property loss ran into millions.

LOGANSPORT, IND.

Two-thirds of the city of Logansport was under water, some places to a depth of fifteen feet. There was only one death reported, but the property loss was great.

Food Can be Had at High School Building; If You Need it Go Get It!

Member Associated Press

Logansport Journal-Tribune

Rain Tuesday and probably Wednesday; colder Wednesday; coldest Wednesday night.

VOL. 5. NO. 85 LOGANSPORT, INDIANA, THURSDAY MORNING, MARCH 27 1913 PRICE TWO CENTS

THE WABASH RIVER IS SLOWLY FALLING

HUNDREDS IMPRISONED BY FLOOD FACE DEATH FROM COLD

SNOW STORM RAGES; RESCUE WORK TO BE RESUMED TODAY

(Bulletin: Flood Situation at 3 O'clock This Morning)

The Wabash River has Fallen 14 Inches Since 2 O'clock Yesterday Afternoon and Is Receding Steadily. The Temperature Is 10 Degree Lower than at Noon Yesterday, the Thermometer Standing Now at 26 Above Zero.

There have been About 1,100 People Rescued from the Flood District, 800 by the Culver Cadets. The Cadets on Rescue Duty Returned to Culver Last Night there being No Accomodations Here. They will Return at 7 This Morning and Resume Work. Rescue Work was Entirely Abandoned at Nightfall. There are Still Over 1,000 People in the Flood Zone.

But a Small Percent of This Number, However, are in Danger of High Water, The Cold and Lack of Food Is the Menace Now Faced by Sufferers in the Westside Region.

The Situation on the Southside Is but Slightly Known. Meagers Reports Say There are Probably None Drowned but Some are in Danger from Starvation and Cold.

Governor Ralston has Notified the Relief Committee that a Train of Supplies for the Southside Is Enroute from Frankfort. It will be Discharged at Longcliff and Trucked Over The Relief Board has Received from South Bend 1,000 Pounds Beef, 500 Pounds Boiled Ham, 150 Pounds Lard, 1,500 Loaves of Bread. From Chicago was Received Last Night 5,000 Loaves of Bread The Train Bringing It Stopped at Royal Centre and the Bread was Brought Here by Auto. The Supplies are at the High School Depot. The Crest of the Flood has Passed. Sickness, Cold and Lack of Food are the Dangers Threatening Now.

All the Homeless are Provided for but Present Quarters may not be Sufficient to Care for the Hundreds to be Taken Out of the Flood District Today. 5,000 People have been Driven from Their Home by the Flood.

Solemly the Wabash is receding leaving!

A FLOOD EDITION

Business was at a standstill and the attention of the people was turned to the work of relief and rescue. Four government life-saving boats, each manned by ten cadets from the Culver Military Academy, were sent to Logansport by special train to aid in the rescue work. Naval boats from the United States training station at Chicago also assisted in the work.

Three thousand people were rendered homeless by the flood, which followed a rapid rise in the St. Joseph River on the night of March 25.

LAFAYETTE, IND.

The Wabash River reached a stage of thirty feet March 26, inundating the wholesale district. Hundreds were forced to abandon their homes on the levee. L. P. Woolery, a Purdue student from Indianapolis, was drowned while trying to rescue two men who were marooned after the Brown street bridge went down. At some places the Wabash was three miles wide, and the Monon, Big Four and Wabash railroads cancelled all their trains. Lafayette was entirely cut off from West Lafayette and 2,000 Purdue students suffered from want of food supplies.

MUNCIE, IND.

The White River levee broke on the morning of March 25 and the entire northern section of the city was inundated. Many abandoned their homes and sought refuge elsewhere. Business was suspended and

traffic, both steam and electric, demoralized. The Big Four bridge and the Chesapeake & Ohio bridge were destroyed. The dike at the water plant broke during the night and the employes were forced to abandon the building. The city was without fire protection.

NOBLESVILLE, IND.

Two persons were drowned by flood at Noblesville, Ind., March 25. Many of the business houses closed down and residents fled the city.

TERRE HAUTE, IND.

The city of Terre Haute awakened Wednesday morning, March 26, to a realization of the horrors of flood. Sunday night a tornado had torn its way through the south side, and all night Tuesday, said an eyewitness, "with the rain pouring down in sheets and the water dripping through the remnants of wrecked houses, sufferers in the storm-torn city wandered the streets, dazed, dumfounded, half crazed.

"From the banks of the Wabash a clean trail was left by the storm king—a trail of ruin, death and suffering. Hospitals were crowded, the morgues crowded, schoolhouses filled, and the rain outside poured on, a dismal accompaniment to a dismal scene."

PENNSYLVANIA TOWNS UNDER WATER

Reports from the river districts March 25 showed all traffic blocked north of Pittsburgh and a half dozen

all power plants in the Capital City district, as well as Mechanicsville and Spier Falls, being under water.

Good order was maintained without difficulty. The police and firemen all worked hard. Nobody suffered for food or lodging, but the property loss was enormous.

The Standard Press of Troy issued flood editions 8 x 11 inches on several days, and was the only newspaper printed in Troy during the flood.

Flood conditions were reported from several other points in Northern New York. In fact, the week will go down in history as unprecedented in the United States as a period of widespread damage from storm and flood.

CAIRO, ILL.

During the week of the great floods in Ohio and Indiana, fears were expressed at Cairo and other Illinois and Kentucky towns in its vicinity, that the rising waters of the Ohio and Mississippi would sooner or later break through or overtop the levees and endanger the lives of their inhabitants.

Steps were taken for the protection of the levees at Cairo and Governor Edward F. Dunne of Illinois ordered the Seventh Regiment, I. N. G., Col. Daniel Moriarity commanding, from Chicago to assist in the work of saving the levees and to preserve order in the threatened city.

The Illinois Naval Reserve was also called out to assist and sent a force of men and boats from Chicago under Commander William McMunn.

The work of both forces was efficient and useful. The troops did excellent work along the levees and in the city, where many of the residents feared the worst. The naval militiamen distinguished themselves in rescue work. One party of fourteen, in charge of Ensign A. R. Pieper, was occupied for three days in a relief expedition on the Mississippi, and rescued 142 starving and flood-bound residents of Kentucky and Missouri living along the banks of the river below Cairo. Most of those saved had been without food for several days. They were found marooned in the upper stories of trembling houses and on housetops.

"The men, women and children we got were in the most pitiable condition imaginable," said Ensign Pieper. "The aged people were crying and praying, the sick women carried out on litters improvised with oars and blankets were in terrible pain and the little children were crying with hunger and cold."

Shawneetown, Illinois, near Cairo, lay for many days at the mercy of the flood waters. Many were homeless and relief was furnished by the state. At Governor Dunne's suggestion, flood relief funds collected in Illinois after April 3 were devoted to the aid of the homeless and destitute in and around Cairo. It

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was estimated at that time that nearly 20,000 flood sufferers in Illinois towns along the Ohio river were in urgent need of aid. The flood in Illinois, though somewhat dwarfed by the occurrences a few days before in Ohio and Indiana, was declared to be the worst in the history of the state.

HELPING IN TIME OF DISTRESS.

CHAPTER XVI

MEASURES OF RELIEF

STEPS TAKEN BY UNCLE SAM AND THE AMERICAN PEOPLE GENERALLY TO AID THE HOMELESS SUFFERERS.

In the face of the conditions at Dayton, learned with the opening of the morning newspapers of Wednesday, March 26—two days after news of the Omaha tornado had been received—the public responded nobly to the appeals for rescue and relief.

The Government did its part, the army organization being used to furnish protection, shelter and rations to the homeless and suffering. States and cities appropriated funds to aid in the work; associations of business men, clubs, and societies contributed their quota. And soon the people of the stricken districts in the two States affected by the flood learned the lesson taught Chicago, when it was laid in ashes in 1871, that the quality of human mercy is not always strained.

PRESIDENT ISSUES APPEAL TO NATION

On March 26 President Wilson issued the following appeal to the nation to help the sufferers in the Ohio and Indiana floods:

"The terrible floods in Ohio and Indiana have assumed the proportions of a national calamity. The loss

of life and the infinite suffering involved prompt me to issue an earnest appeal to all who are able in however small a way to assist the labors of the American Red Cross to send contributions at once to the Red Cross at Washington or to the local treasurers of the society. We should make this a common cause. The needs of those upon whom this sudden and overwhelming disaster has come should quicken every one capable of sympathy and compassion to give immediate aid to those who are laboring to rescue and relieve.

"WOODROW WILSON."

GOVERNOR COX'S APPEAL FOR AID

"If our worst fears are confirmed, it will be necessary for us to call on the outside world for tents and supplies in order to make provision for the worst calamity that has ever befallen this state," said Governor James M. Cox on the morning after the flood descended.

The Governor also said troops were ordered out for duty in the capital city and that the naval reserves were dispatched from Toledo to Piqua. The Dayton companies are on duty in that city, he said.

The Cincinnati companies, presumably, the Governor said, would be dispatched to Hamilton and Middletown, which lie in the Miami Valley, and which sent out distress signals.

At the suggestion of Governor Cox a bill was drawn and presented to the Legislature the same day by Rep-

resentative Lofrie, appropriating $250,000 for relief of the flood sufferers of the state.

Governor Cox sent out appeals for aid to the Governors of all the border states of Ohio, including Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Michigan, Indiana and Kentucky. Tents and provisions were badly needed, according to the Governor's appeal.

CHICAGO DOES ITS SHARE

As an example of the outpouring of practical sympathy the aid extended by the citizens of Chicago may be cited. Similar steps were taken in most of the large cities of the country.

The Chicago Association of Commerce issued the following appeal through a special Flood Committee the morning after the flood swept over Dayton:

To the People of Chicago and Vicinity:

Your contribution to the fund for the relief of the sufferers in the stricken district of Ohio and Indiana is desired immediately.

A substantial sum was immediately wired the President of the United States, who is president of the American Red Cross, and further contributions must follow from day to day.

It is desired by your committee that all whose hearts go out to our neighbors in their distress be given an opportunity of subscribing, and that the fund be a general

expression of the sympathy and helpfulness of this great city.

To that end we ask your subscription, no matter how small it may be. Your committee will have responsible representatives on the ground to act with officials of the Red Cross and the State Governments.

Send your contribution to the Chicago Association of Commerce, 10 South La Salle Street, Chicago, making checks payable to the order of Francis T. Simmons, Treasurer, and receipt will be duly acknowledged.

HOMER A. STILLWELL, Chairman.
JOHN W. SCOTT, Vice-Chairman.
FRANCIS T. SIMMONS,
Treasurer Flood Relief Committee, Chicago Association of Commerce.

CHICAGO RESPONDS TO OHIO'S APPEAL

One Chicago newspaper printed the following call in response to Governor Cox's appeal for aid:

"The Chicago American calls upon the people of Chicago to respond to the appeal of the Governor of Ohio for financial and other material assistance for the thousands of persons that are suffering in the flooded districts. The swollen rivers, broken dams and overflowing lakes in the hills of Ohio have caused millions of dollars' worth of loss, thrown thousands upon thousands of men out of work, closed factories and business houses, blocked railroads and rendered homeless and destitute unnumbered thousands of men, women and

children. The disaster is the most appalling in the history of Ohio and one of the most terrible that any portion of the United States has known.

" 'He gives twice who gives quickly.'

"Ohio, through her chief executive, calls on the world to come to the rescue. There is no time to be lost. The need is great and immediate. Clothing, food, tents, money and medicine must be furnished to the stricken people with a lavish hand. There must be no suffering in Ohio that the people of the United States can, with magnificent generosity, prevent. The opportunity is here for Chicago to rise to this occasion as grandly as she has always risen to the plea of suffering municipalities, and as grandly as the nation rose to Chicago's relief in her time of tremendous trial in 1871.

"Send contributions of money, payable to the Chicago American Ohio Relief Fund. Notify the American where supplies of clothing, bedding, tents, cooking utensils and other necessaries may be called for. Let there be no stint in Chicago's response to Ohio's appeal."

QUICK RESPONSE TO CRY FOR AID IS GIVEN

Quick response to Chicago's appeal for aid for flood sufferers in Ohio and Indiana came at the weekly luncheon of the ways and means committee of the Chicago Association of Commerce March 26. The following contributions were among those pledged on the day following the flood:

Marshall Field & Co.	$5,000.00
Sears, Roebuck & Co.	5,000.00
International Harvester Co.	5,000.00
Commonwealth Edison Co.	5,000.00
Crane Co.	5,000.00
Armour & Co.	5,000.00
Morris & Co.	2,500.00
Swift & Co.	2,500.00
Carson, Pirie, Scott & Co.	2,000.00
Butler Bros.	2,000.00
Cudahy Packing Co.	1,000.00
John V. Farwell & Co.	1,000.00
Mandel Bros.	1,000.00
Hart, Shaffner & Marx	1,000.00
Siegel, Cooper & Co.	1,000.00
Boston Store	1,000.00
The Fair	1,000.00
A. M. Rothschild & Co.	500.00
Spaulding & Co.	500.00
Evanston Commercial Association	500.00
Wilson Bros.	500.00
Charles A. Stevens & Bros.	250.00
Hathaway, Smith, Folds & Co.	250.00
Chapin & Gore	250.00
A. C. McClurg & Co.	250.00
Albert R. Barnes & Co.	150.00

Chicago's total subscription exceeded $300,000.

A total of nearly $60,000 was subscribed to this Relief Fund in Chicago the first day.

QUICK ACTION IN WASHINGTON

The prompt action taken by the Federal authorities to relieve distress and guard against pestilence in the flooded districts is shown in the following report from Washington:

Wednesday, March 26.—Convinced that the Ohio-Indiana flood would be followed by a pestilence that will claim double the number of victims of the flood itself, President Wilson, through the War Department, has taken unprecedented measures for relief. Not only are a million rations and tentage for 30,000 persons on the way to Columbus, but within twenty-four hours eight army surgeons with 10,000 vaccine and anti-typhoid points and medical supplies in abundance will be at work in the district.

President Wilson ordered these things to be done immediately on receipt of an appeal from Governor Cox. He has since been assured by Chairmen Martin and Fitzgerald of the Senate and House Appropriations Committees that whatever money is expended will be appropriated at the opening of the coming session of Congress.

The appeal for food and medical supplies from Governor Cox reached the White House shortly after noon. Ten minutes later the War and Treasury De-

partments and other governmental agencies were at work rushing preparations for relief on a scale never before equaled in this country in days of peace.

SUPPLIES ALREADY SENT

Before nightfall a quarter of the supplies that were ordered forwarded were on their way by express with instructions to those in charge to employ automobiles and pack trains if the relief trains should be stalled by washouts.

The first invoice was dispatched from Chicago, the nearest available point of supply. The provisions, medicines and supplies not readily available were purchased in the open market, boxed and loaded on trains by as many men as could be hired for the purpose.

In the emergency the army ration (enough food to feed one man one day) was made up as follows: Eight ounces of salted or tinned meat, hard bread and one

pound of flour for use where baking can be done; baking powder, evaporated milk, coffee and sugar.

These supplies were purchased by the depot quartermaster of the army in Chicago with instructions not to haggle over the price.

The first consignment of supplies was dispatched to Columbus, from which place it will be distributed under the direction of Governor Cox.

Majors Normoyle and Logan, U. S. A., were started from Washington for Columbus this afternoon with orders to do everything possible to aid Governor Cox in giving relief. Both have done duty of this kind in the Mississippi flood districts and are the kind of men upon whom General Wood, chief of staff, and Quartermaster-General Aleshire place absolute reliance.

FOUR THOUSAND TENTS SHIPPED

No assurance could be given by the railroad authorities that the supplies sent from the emergency depot in Washington could be got past Pittsburgh on their way West. However, a special train will be ready at Pittsburgh and the supplies will be rushed to Columbus if possible.

From Philadelphia 4,000 tents were shipped this afternoon by special express train, together with 30,000 cots, 200 hospital tents and 400 stoves. The tents are of the conical wall type, and in an emergency can accommodate six persons each.

In conjunction with the work of the War Department, the Red Cross put its entire machinery to work, and in addition began the task of raising the enormous amount of money that will be necessary very soon.

Supplemental to the work of the Red Cross, Secretary McAdoo directed that the public health service immediately get into action. All the surgeons of the service that can be spared from other duties will be rushed into Ohio.

Although up to midnight no order for the movement of troops had gone out, all the post commanders within a range of 500 miles of Ohio were instructed to have their men in instant readiness to march. The first report of vandalism or the looting of the destroyed cities that reaches the War Department will result in an order for the troops to be entrained for Ohio.

PROCLAMATION BY BRAND WHITLOCK

To the People of Toledo:

Our state has been visited by one of those fateful calamities that are so vast and appalling that the imagination is powerless to reduce to human terms the suffering and anguish they produce. The floods of the past three days suddenly, in the night, turned out of their homes thousands of people in all the western part of our state, and men and women and children find themselves without shelter, without clothing, without

food. They sit in sorrow and despair, benumbed by the disaster that has overwhelmed them.

These are our own people, the citizens of our own Ohio, and the great heart of Toledo will not fail to re-

DEATH RIDES THE STORM.

"The Lord hath his way in the whirlwind and in the storm, and the clouds are the dust of his feet."

—*Nahum, 1 : 3.*

spond quickly and generously to the appeal that comes to us this morning. I am appointing a committee to receive contributions—contributions of all sorts, clothing and food and money—and I am sending word to the mayors of the stricken cities that Toledo will help them. He gives twice who gives quickly.

BRAND WHITLOCK, Mayor.

TOLEDO SENDS RELIEF

The following dispatch from Toledo tells part of the story of the work of relief promptly organized there:

Toledo, Ohio, March 27.—The cry for help from the raging torrents of water that swept throughout Ohio, leaving in its path death and desolation, has given way to a cry for bread.

From Fremont, Tiffin, Ottawa and other stricken cities in northwestern Ohio today came appeals to the Toledo Commerce Club for bread and yeast.

Fremont, through Chief of Police Knapp, placed an order with local bakeries for 5,000 loaves of bread. The Commerce Club gave each bakery in Toledo an order for 2,000 loaves of bread, making 10,000 loaves that the Commerce Club will distribute before tomorrow.

Toledo bakeries are rushed to the limit of their capacity and their regular trade is being neglected to care for the needs of the northwestern Ohio flood sufferers.

The cry for gasoline is also coming from northwest-

ern Ohio cities. With gas plants in the various cities shut down and other fuel under water, the flood victims are suffering from the cold. The most of the gasoline will be used as fuel, although some of it will go to operate power boats that are doing noble rescue work.

Ottawa, Ohio, also called for more supplies and the Commerce Club volunteer committee is busy getting this train ready.

A second train, carrying thirty-eight rowboats, was dispatched to Dayton early today in charge of police officers delegated by Chief Knapp to assist at Dayton.

Clothing, food, blankets and cash are coming in to temporary quarters of the Commerce Club relief committee in the Nasby building in large amounts, and Toledo is doing its share for the relief of the sufferers in splendid style.

TRAIN REACHES DAYTON

The first Toledo relief train, according to the following message received by Secretary Biggers, of the Toledo Commerce Club, from Governor Cox, must have reached Dayton early on March 27. The message read:

"Toledo did the most effective work of any city in the State or surrounding country. The city grasped the seriousness of conditions, apparently, before any other city, and I have taken the trouble to call you on the telephone to express to the people of Toledo and to

your organization my deep appreciation and the deep appreciation of all of the people of the State.

"Toledo's train was the first on the ground, and I understand the relief workers are doing noble service in the stricken city of Dayton."

MANY CITIES START RELIEF WORK

Other cities that took early relief action, according to dispatches received March 27, were as follows:

New York.—Physicians, nurses and Red Cross workers, bearing medical supplies, food and clothing, left for the flooded district Thursday night.

San Francisco.—Mindful of the generosity shown San Francisco in the hour of her affliction, Governor Johnson joined with the Legislature in an appeal to contribute to the relief of the stricken cities of Ohio, Indiana and Nebraska. Chambers of commerce and mayors in San Francisco, Oakland, Berkeley, Stockton, Seattle, Spokane and others of the principal cities up and down the coast set about raising funds.

Des Moines.—Governor G. W. Clark issued an appeal asking aid for the flood sufferers.

St. Paul.—Governor Eberhart telegraphed Governor Cox, of Ohio, offering aid and asking the needs of the flood victims. A joint resolution appropriating $5,000 for relief was introduced in the House and acted on quickly.

Milwaukee.—Department Commander Spratt, of the State Grand Army of the Republic, issued a special order asking subscriptions from Civil War veterans for their comrades who suffered in the floods.

Salt Lake City, Utah.—A fund of $1,000 was raised in a few minutes by the Salt Lake Commercial Club, March 27. The Ohio Society of Utah raised a like amount.

Pueblo, Colo.— The Trades Assembly last night voted $1,600 for the flood relief.

Klamath Falls, Ore.—Klamath County has started eight carloads of potatoes to the flood sufferers of the East. Others will follow. One car will be sent to each big city in distress.

Baltimore.—It was announced at the general offices of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad Company that all relief supplies consigned to communities in the flood regions will be transported free. They will receive first consideration and be forwarded as promptly as possible. Governor Goldsborough, president of the Maryland Red Cross Society, issued an appeal for contributions in aid of the flood sufferers.

Harrisburg, Pa.—Governor Tener issued a proclamation calling on the citizens of Pennsylvania to extend aid to the flood sufferers in Ohio.

Sterling, Ill.—Mayor J. W. McDonald raised a $300 benefit fund for Dayton flood sufferers.

Champaign, Ill.—Mayor Coughlin, of Champaign, issued an appeal for funds to aid the flood sufferers and named a committee to solicit.

Hammond, Ind.—Though meeting with serious flood conditions in their own cities, people of the Calumet region are raising $50,000 in cash and sending a trainload of supplies to the central Indiana flood district. The Hammond Chamber of Commerce sent out a car of blankets, clothing and food supplies. The Hammond Boat Club will send its commodore and fleet of motor boats on Chesapeake & Ohio flat cars to Peru. The East Chicago Chamber of Commerce voted a large subscription and forty factories in that region have started contribution lists. Mayors of Gary, Hammond and East Chicago issued proclamations today.

CHAPTER XVII

RECENT AMERICAN FLOODS

FLOOD IN THE MISSISSIPPI VALLEY

One of the most destructive floods in the history of the Mississippi Valley occurred in the spring of 1912. Owing to the heavy and late snowfalls and the somewhat sudden melting of the snow in the latter part of March and the first part of April, a vast volume of water was poured into the Mississippi River by its tributaries. At some places the levees were broken and at other places they were overflowed, with the result that thousands of acres of rich farming lands were inundated. At Cairo, Ill., May 4, the river stood at 53.9 feet, which was 1.7 feet above the high water mark of 1883. At Memphis the high record mark was broken by 3 feet.

At the request of the mayor of Cairo troops were sent to patrol the levees at that city April 2. The soldiers were supplemented by hundreds of railroad and other laborers, and through their efforts the dikes protecting the town were strengthened sufficiently to withstand the pressure. The Mobile & Ohio levee broke April 4 and the drainage district north of Cairo was

flooded, causing a damage estimated at $5,000,000. Railroad service was almost cut off, being maintained in some instances only by the use of tugs where the lines were under water. April 5 the Government levee west of Hickman, Ky., protecting the Reelfoot Lake district of Kentucky and Tennessee, gave way and a large area of country was inundated.

April 7 it was estimated by Government engineers and State Levee Boards that as a result of the floods, which then had continued two weeks, thirty persons had been drowned and 30,000 made homeless; that 2,000 square miles of territory had been inundated, and that damage had been caused amounting to $10,000,000. Several levees on both sides of the Mississippi above and below Memphis had given way and large areas of land in Tennessee, Arkansas, Kentucky, Missouri, Mississippi and Louisiana were under water. In the northern part of the city of Memphis twenty-five blocks were submerged, 1,300 persons were made homeless, and 3,000 were thrown out of work by the shutting down of factories. Railroad traffic was interrupted, and Hickman, Ky., for a time was on the verge of a famine on account of the lack of supplies. The destitution in the flooded districts was great until relieved by Federal and State aid.

In Mississippi, where the flood was at its worst about April 20, many deaths from drowning occurred.

Fifteen persons were lost near Benoit in the flood that came from a break in the levee between that place and Beulah. It was reported that altogether about 200 lives were lost in Bolivar County, Mississippi. The majority of the victims were colored.

Congress, at the request of President Taft, appropriated $350,000, April 2, for the relief of the flood sufferers. May 7 Congress appropriated the further sum of $1,239,179.65 for the same purpose. The money was expended for supplies furnished by the quartermaster-general and commissary-general of the army.

THE GREAT JOHNSTOWN FLOOD

Johnstown, Pa., is a city on the Conemaugh River, by rail fifty-eight miles southeast of Pittsburgh. Manufacturing of various kinds is extensively carried on, steel-making being the most important industry. The plant of the Cambria Steel Company is one of the best equipped establishments of the kind in America. There also are the Lorain Steel Company, an iron and steel works, furniture factories, potteries, a wireworks and woolen and leather factories. Public buildings of note are Cambria Free Library, Conemaugh Valley Memorial Hospital, the city hall, high school, Franciscan monastery and several churches.

Johnstown is famous as the scene of one of the greatest catastrophes of recent years. By the bursting of a reservoir on May 31, 1889, the city was overwhelmed

with a flood. The water descended through a narrow valley and destroyed everything in its path. The loss of life is estimated at 2,500 or 3,000. An appeal for aid was generously responded to both at home and abroad, the cash contributions amounting to more than $4,000,000. Johnstown today is a much larger and finer city than before her misfortune, of which but few traces remain. The city occupies the hundredth place in America's large cities, its population being 55,482.

THE GALVESTON TIDAL WAVE

Galveston, in southeastern Texas, has an interest and importance exceeding that of any other city of the same size in the United States. Its special claim to distinction lies in the energy of its citizens in wresting prosperity out of unparalleled disaster, and, at the same time, initiating the business corporation form of municipal government, known widely as the Galveston plan. The situation of the city on Galveston Bay, which is 35 by 15 miles, gives it the best natural harbor on the Gulf of Mexico and makes of it a seaport second only to New Orleans. Its further growth must keep pace with the development of the great Southwest. It had the disadvantage of lying on an island which, although 30 miles long by 3 wide, rose but a few feet above the level of the Gulf, and was occasionally flooded. Proper paving and drainage were impossible. Lying in the same latitude as St. Augustine, Fla., its climate is sub-

tropical. Groves of oleander and orange gave it beauty; but cholera and yellow fever were accepted as inevitable, as was corruption in the municipal government. It was a wide open, slatternly, unhealthy town, but no one thought of changing anything, for business flourished with the enormous shipments of cotton, wheat, lumber, tallow and hides, and life, if precarious, was easy and luxurious.

On the 8th of September, 1900, the city was almost destroyed by a cyclone and tidal wave. One-sixth of the population was drowned and one-third of the property destroyed. The rotten cedar block pavements floated off in rafts, laying bare the original sand. The treasury was empty, credit was gone, taxes could not be assessed on property that had ceased to exist. Thousands were fleeing from the stricken city, and, in the hour of extremity, the municipal government broke down. But that ill-wind had blown away indifference, greed and moral miasma. Out of the disaster sprang such energy, ability and civic patriotism as the world has rarely witnessed. The work to be done needed new, clean tools. The city was looked upon as a ruined business, and a business-corporation government was devised to build it up again.

A special act of the Legislature abolished the mayor and council and created a board of directors, or commissioners, of five members, one of whom is president, all

being elected by popular vote. Salaries were nominal, for the commissioners were simply the responsible heads of departments with well paid expert managers under them to carry out the details. The same kind of men of independent means, position and reputation were secured as now serve for nothing on library, park and school boards in other cities. One commissioner was at the head of finance and revenue—a banker with an expert accountant, employed as city auditor, under him; one had charge of waterworks and sewage, with a civil engineer; one of fire and police; and one of streets and public property.

In the period since the catastrophe Galveston has built a sea-wall four and a half miles long and seventeen feet high, and raised the grade of the city to its top. It has paved the business section with brick and installed a sewerage system; drained the swamps; stamped out epidemics, and cleaned the town morally. In spite of this monumental work municipal expenses have been cut one-third. The credit of the city is above par. The population has been about restored, and the business has increased. Dallas and Houston have adopted the Galveston plan, and cities all over the country are watching the experiment with interest. The population of Galveston was, at the last census, 36,981.

MOST DISASTROUS FLOODS IN HISTORY OF THE WORLD

Dort, Holland	1421	100,000
Holland (dikes)	1530	400,000
Catalonia	1617	50,000
Zeeland and Hamburg	1717	1,300
Navarre	1787	2,000
Lorca, Spain (reservoir)	April 14, 1802	1,000
Dantzig	April 9, 1829	1,200
New Orleans	May 12, 1849	1,600
Sheffield, England	March 12, 1864	250
Mill River Valley, Northampton, Mass.	May 16, 1874	144
Pittsburgh, Pa.	July 26, 1874	220
Szegedin, Hungary	March 12, 1879	1,177
Marcia, Spain	Oct. 16, 1879	1,000
Johnstown, Pa.	May 31, 1889	2,280
Mississippi River, St. Louis	May 25, 1892	250
Oil City, Pa.	June 5, 1892	350
Mississippi River, St. Louis	April 13, 1893	250
Brazos River, Texas	July 5, 1899	200
Galveston, Texas	Sept. 8, 1900	6,000
Oakford Park, Pa.	July 6, 1903	50
Austin, Pa.	Sept. 30, 1911	200

HELPING HANDS. —N. Y. World.

CHAPTER XVIII

WHAT TO DO AFTER A FLOOD

(Dr. W. A. Evans, former health officer of Chicago, in the Chicago Tribune.)

After the flood comes the aftermath. In a flooded district the waters rage, destroying lives and property for a few days. Then they drop back to their accustomed channels, and contagion rages, destroying lives and health for a few weeks.

The aftermath is, too, a product of the flood. Scarlet fever, diphtheria, smallpox, and other forms of active contagion are increased because the regular methods and customs of the community are disturbed. In the excitement and daze, quarantines are not kept and many more people are exposed than in normal times. Typical cases that in orderly times would stay at home and be on the safe side, mingle with the mad rush of fleeing people, or gather in the idle crowds of sightseers.

These are the reasons, and not street filth, why there is an aftermath of contagion. This group of

diseases usually flares up about a week after the flood begins and they are at their worst about three weeks later.

BEWARE OF PNEUMONIA

There will be some pneumonia aftermath. The colds that come from the damp walled houses will show up within a day after the people have moved back. Some pneumonia will develop within a day.

Pneumonia differs from typhoid fever in that the disease comes within a few hours after the germs get into the blood, whereas, in typhoid they stay in the system a week before the sickness starts.

However, some of the colds that start the first night in the wet house will not develop into pneumonia for three or four days. The pneumonia germs in the nose and throat cause colds; in the blood, cause pneumonia.

In the Chicago tuberculosis exhibit are graphic pictures of wet-footed houses and the harm done by them. In the flood districts the houses are more than wet-footed; they are wet through and through.

THE REMEDY

The remedy? Thorough cleansing, emptying the basements of water, washing of floors, sinks and toilets with a chlorinated lime or carbolic mixture.

To make a solution of chlorinated lime for washing, pour a pound of the powder from a tin can into half a barrel of water. To make a solution of one of

the crude carbolic preparations, put a tablespoonful in a gallon of water.

Above all, heat, sun and air the house and its contents and repeat day after day.

TYPHOID AND DIARRHŒA

Much of the most important of the flood aftermaths are typhoid fever and diarrhœas. The stench from dirt and decaying matter in the streets and the yards is objectionable, but not of much consequence as compared with the pollution of the water.

Frequently the wells or reservoirs are located in low places and the flood waters cover them. This happened at Peru this year and last year at Memphis. Frequently a connection from the reservoir-well to the sewers, provided to prevent the wells from overflowing, will carry sewage from the sewers to the well. This happened at Mankato.

Frequently a town uses the unfiltered water from some normally fairly safe stream, but a stream which, in flood times, is heavily polluted. Frequently the people who live on the flats habitually use water from dug wells and, in times of flood the yards, vaults and stables are emptied into these wells.

Some part of the typhoid is due to the washing of milk utensils in the polluted water. Some part of it is due to the general disarrangement of the habits and

customs of the people, subjecting them to a miscellaneous lot of typhoid foci.

BOIL OR CHLORINATE WATER

The remedy? Influence just as many people as possible to boil or chlorinate their drinking water. By boiling is meant to heat the water until it starts to simmer. The typhoid germ is killed by a temperature of 160 degrees, 50 degrees below boiling.

To chlorinate, put a teaspoonful of chlorinated lime in three teacups of water. Put one teaspoonful of this solution in two gallons of drinking water.

It is the universal experience that a community that trusts to individual action in boiling the water always pays the penalty of typhoid. Therefore, the proper policy is for the community to treat the water. A temporary chlorine plant of the type proposed by Darnell for the army may be installed. Or chloride of lime may be dissolved in the water at the reservoir or in the well. The amount used when the water is extremely muddy and heavily polluted should be somewhere around thirty to forty pounds a million gallons —as much as the people will stand. As the water gets clearer the quantity may be reduced day by day until it reaches fifteen, or even ten pounds per million gallons. After things have got nearly normal, say ten days after the pollution, it may go to five or even three pounds.

OFFICIAL ACTION NEEDED

As the people who have dug wells are certain to begin using the water after a week or ten days, the officers should themselves purify this water with chloride of lime. A few barrels and some pipe constitute all the apparatus required. For immediate use the lime may be placed in a gunny sack and dragged through the well. The expense is nominal.

The street department must see that the streets and alleys are cleaned and an ample squad of sanitary police must see that the houses are cleaned.

However, effort in this direction must not divert attention from the main danger, namely, polluted water and milk. What is on the floor is bad, but what gets in you is a million times worse.

Finally, the wise people in a flood area will get vaccinated against typhoid. Vaccination saved Memphis in 1912.

WHEN MONEY IS OF NO ACCOUNT AT ALL!

"DON'T SEND US MONEY! SEND US NURSES, PHYSICIANS, FOOD!"—APPEAL OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE DAYTON FLOOD RELIEF COMMITTEE.

—Superior, Wis., Telegram.

CHAPTER XIX

COMMENTS OF THE PRESS

THE FLOOD DISASTER.

(Omaha Bee, March 27.)

In our own terrible affliction we can sympathize thoroughly with communities in Ohio, Indiana and other middle states, where floods have wrought havoc to life and property more far-reaching than our tornado destruction. The governor estimates 250,000 people homeless in Ohio alone and the same number is estimated for Indiana, while 1,000 in all are reported dead, and property losses are mounting up into tens of millions, much too indefinite to reckon now. Dayton, where the greatest destruction centers, is flooded by the river as the result of a dam going out.

Many American cities have fallen under the blight of fire or flood or wind, or earthquake, only to rise stronger and better, and that is the test now to be met by all those at this time staggering to their feet after these terrible blows. There ought to be a community of sorrow to inspire a similar resolution in all to build better than before.

THE SILVER LINING.

(St. Louis Republic, March 27.)

Cities and districts suffering from storm and flood should take heart to remember one thing. Such a spring as the present one is usually followed by harvests of almost immeasurable abundance.

The most important industry in this country is the live-stock industry. Its products in a year exceed by 40 per cent the value of all the iron and steel produced annually in the United States.

Now a year of floods is always a year of grass. Pastures will be fat this year and meadows stand waist high. Our chief industry will receive a wonderful stimulus. Floods may drown out some wheat, but they will give us a bumper crop of hay, and the hay crop of the United States is worth more than 40 per cent more than the wheat crop. We think little about it because it is chiefly consumed on the farm and reaches the market in the form of meat, but a year of good grass is a good year for the American farmer.

Another thing: A wet spring extends the margin of profitable cultivation westward. On the prairies the blue-stem grass will invade areas usually given over to buffalo grass, and farmers west of the ninety-eighth meridian will see the signs of a good corn year and plant accordingly.

Golden streams of grain will converge on Omaha as July passes into August. The rich valleys of Ohio, the fifth state in the Union in value of agricultural products, will wave with grass and corn as spring waxes into sum-

mer and add the wealth of their dairy and meat products to the food supply of the nation. Strange as it may seem, with the very destructiveness of storm and flood are bound up those beneficent forces which multiply the cattle on a thousand hills and make the valleys laugh with abundant harvests.

THE TEMPEST.

(Milwaukee, Wis., Press, March 26.)

As in the case of the fearful Sicilian earthquake some years ago, the brute, insensate powers of nature have brought death and desolation to humanity during a festival of divine significance. Then it was the anniversary of the Saviour's birth that was desecrated by this ruthless and unnecessary tide of human woe. Now it is the anniversary of his life-bringing resurrection.

Bitter as is the irony of such contrasts, few in this dispensation, save the bigoted and benighted, regard these great calamities as visitations of divine vengeance; few even hold God in any way responsible.

In the olden time men turned their anguished faces toward the heavens, and prayed or cursed or begged at least for reasons, but the inscrutable and changeless dome vouchsafed no answer. But as our conception of the divinity has grown more spiritual, we have come to realize that God is love, and we have come to look for him in the material operations of the universe only as they are affected by the spiritual.

We feel that the forces of nature take their course without the interference of the divine principle. We feel that no God of love and spiritual order could dis-

pense these horrible calamities to mankind, and that without rhyme or reason.

And just as we have grown into the realization that the kingdom of God is in the hearts and souls of men—in the spiritual part of the universe—so have we come to accept these blighting catastrophes as invitations for the assertion of the immanent divine, for the out-pouring of our compassion, the dispensing of our means to the afflicted. We pray that the suffering, the stricken and forlorn may not look up to God in wrath or fear, but with that trusting, understanding spirit which alone is truly receptive of His ministrations.

God is not manifest in the tempest, but he will be manifest in the great wave of human sympathy, of generous widespread aid that will move on toward the stricken cities from every quarter of this land.

Fire, flood, earthquake and tornado—all the devastating, life-destroying operations of nature have visited man since his entry on this globe, and there has been woe and suffering as the result of them. But the participation of unaffected thousands in that woe and suffering, the ready proffer of relief even from alien shores, that is new—the fruit of the seed that Christ implanted in the heart of man, the seed proclaiming God as love and men as brothers.

A PHANTASMAGORIA OF DISASTER.

(Milwaukee Evening Wisconsin, March 26.)

"One story is good till another is told," runs an old saying which might be travestied to apply to the swiftly succeeding disasters of the past few days. One story

seems bad in the uttermost degree of possible evil till another is told. Horrors accumulate, and the last are worse than the first. When the news of Sunday's tornado at Omaha came over the wires it froze the blood. The destruction of property valued at millions and the death-roll approximately two hundred persons was appalling. Only two days have elapsed, and the Omaha calamity, sad and serious as it is, has been forced into the background of the news by the unprecedented floods in the Ohio river and its tributaries. The value of the property swept away by these raging waters is beyond estimate, but what shocks the imagination is the enormous loss of life.

All over Ohio and Indiana torrents created by recent heavy rains have caused the water in scores of streams to rise so high and so suddenly that hundreds of people have been surprised in their homes and drowned like rats in a hole. Early attempts to state the loss of life in figures necessarily were the merest guesswork. In Dayton, for instance, what the flood had done when last night's dispatches came in was hidden under the blanket of the dark. This morning's daylight, while revealing desolate wastes of water where once had been miles of prosperous business streets and happy homes, may have brought reassurance to souls brimming with the spirit of human brotherhood, by showing that the mortality was not as great as had been feared.

Factories surrounded with water are shut down and thousands are out of work. In some places plundering wretches have necessitated the calling out of troops to preserve order. In Dayton as well as many other cities

the water service system is wrecked, and there is apprehension that drinking the flood water will bring on an epidemic.

The fact that in many instances storms which have caused recent disasters were not foretold is arousing criticism of the Weather Bureau. It is complained that the kind of storms which have come unheralded in the West and South during the past few days are the ones which the public is most anxious to learn about in advance, and that while the record after the event may be interesting it is only practically valuable to the extent that it will assist in enhancing the accuracy of future predictions. The Weather Bureau costs too much money for the people to be content with results from it which are merely abstract and scientific. If they cannot get concrete returns they will want to check its expense. Undoubtedly its reports have been valuable to mariners and fruitgrowers. But there is something that dissatisfies the public in frequent failures to give notice of violent storms.

CONDITIONS ARE UNDERESTIMATED.

(Joliet, Ill., Herald, March 27.)

To the casual reader, reports thus far received from the flooded districts in Ohio are accepted as partially colored stories, in which the danger element is overplayed. To them the imminent and later danger following the first deluge is over-estimated. To them there is not the danger attached to the after-effects that the press would have them believe. The appeals of authori-

ties for help are accepted with discount. In both opinions they are wrong.

Taken in their own home town, all are familiar with the discomfort caused by a break-down at the power houses which leaves the city in darkness. Add to that the stopping of the trolley lines. Then demoralize the telephone system, sever all connections between fire alarm boxes and the fire station, likewise those with the police station. Permit no messenger boys on the streets and abolish the cabbies and autos for a day. Close all grocery stores, markets and supply houses and abandon all deliveries from them. Then turn off the city water without having given warning that this was to be done. Lastly, cut all telegraph wires and permit no trains to enter or leave the city.

Would that cause any inconvenience? Would that cause any suffering? Would there be any danger for the safety of the people of the town?

Then add to that the deplorable conditions of a city devastated by surging ice water, demolishing homes, buildings and killing those in its reach. To its effects add the resulting effect of the hours of exposure and hunger on the sufferers—the weakened systems that follow making normal resistance to disease impossible and an epidemic of typhoid and kindred diseases probable.

That has been the experience of Kansas City, of Galveston, of lower Mississippi river towns and all other places suffering from a flood.

When such conditions are remembered then the wonder is that any one would discount the sincerity of the appeals being made for help and the haste with which aid promised is forthcoming.

UNPRECEDENTED SERIES OF DISASTERS AWES COUNTRY.

(Milwaukee Journal, March 26.)

Memory fails to recall such a visitation of storm and disaster sweeping over such a wide stretch of the country as we are witnessing. Day after day has brought fresh reports of new ruin and loss of life. Wind, flood and fire have visited scores of cities and small towns with calamity. Some of them are desolate; from many others it is still impossible to obtain accurate information, and new stories of havoc are pouring in.

Beginning on Friday, with a storm on Lake Erie and the loss of forty lives, the papers have been filled with accounts of nature's frenzy. Saturday Chicago was all but cut off from outside wire connection; Milwaukee came near suffering the same fate. Sunday seemed to bring relief, but with Monday came the fearful reports of loss by wind storms in Nebraska and Indiana. Even yet we do not know the loss of life in Omaha. But fresh disasters have called our attention throughout the central states.

Stories of loss by flood and wind come in almost faster than they can be put in type. One disaster treads on another's heels, and they come from all parts of the Mississippi valley. From the fire in Omaha the editor would be called by the story of disaster at Delaware, O., a little city whose quiet river scarcely affords good boating in normal times. Then came the breaking of the levee at Dayton, with a loss of life which cannot even yet be guessed. Then Columbus, then Piqua with the breaking of a dam and the reported loss of 540 lives. From Ohio attention would suddenly jump to Illinois,

where a cyclone had caught a train and wrecked it with the loss of fifteen lives; then to St. Louis and the story of a great flood there. Meanwhile the losses in Indiana were growing hourly, Kentucky suffered from tornadoes, Iowa and Nebraska were visited by new storms and fresh destruction. A heroic story came of a telephone girl sending in her message that the building across the street had just collapsed.

—Milwaukee, Wis., Journal.

From eastern Ohio to Nebraska, from the lakes to Kentucky, has come one constant over-whelming story of tornado, cyclone and flood; of buildings and trains wrecked, wire service interrupted, dams breaking and a toll of life that cannot now be estimated. Memory fails to find a parallel for such universal damage. In a mere moment the storm gods unchained have reminded

man of his weakness. The careful defenses of years have been swept away, and nature has shown herself an all powerful ruler.

There is grandeur in the very horror. The tale of destruction is awe-inspiring. Once more we are reminded how puny is man and all his works.

WIND AND RAIN.

(Memphis Commercial-Express, March 26.)

Not within the memory of living man has there been such widespread destruction by wind and flood and rain as during the last week, and the end is not yet.

Last week there was loss of life in Arkansas, in the territory adjacent to Memphis, in Alabama and in Middle Tennessee.

Then came the disaster at Omaha.

Now we have the story of appalling loss of life in Indiana and Ohio.

The map does not encourage a hope for better weather.

There has been a heavy rainfall from the upper reaches of the Missouri to the headwaters of the Ohio.

All this water will come into the Ohio and Missouri and finally into the Mississippi.

So far there has not been a heavy rainfall in the Cumberland and the Tennessee valleys. But before this paper is read throughout its territory there may be enough rain in this region to fill the Cumberland and the Tennessee.

We are going to have a big run of water down the Mississippi. . . .

There should be a general inspection and tightening up at once in order that no damage may result from some weak point overlooked.

The news columns of this paper tell the story of the awful loss of life in the northern and western states.

The sympathy of the people of this Southland goes out to the stricken ones in Omaha and in Dayton.

One is a bustling, buoyant, hopeful city in the west; the other is an old town in Ohio—old in years, but young in spirit.

The people of Dayton, though under the shadow of Cincinnati, have made it a splendid small city, the site of a number of prosperous manufacturing plants. But they have not been content with mere business. Dayton is a city beautiful. It has splendid schools, parks, fine streets. It is a model of neatness and order.

A city such as Dayton, however, has a life that neither storm nor flood can destroy. As soon as the waters have left and the dead are buried the work of rebuilding will go on.

FLOODS BRING DEATH AND RUIN.

(Oshkosh, Wis., Northwestern, March 27.)

Scarcely had this nation recovered from the shock of the disastrous wind storms that caused wreck and ruin at Omaha and other points in the central west, than it is confronted by a still larger and more serious calamity, due to abnormal flood conditions in the Ohio valley and adjoining sections. Spring floods in these sections are by no means unusual, for scarcely a year goes by without more or less experience of this character.

But the flood of the present season is the worst that has been known for many years, both in extent and the unusually high stage of water, and also in the toll taken of human lives, as well as in the damage done to property. . . . Fortunately, the loyalty and sympathy of the American people never fail at such crises, and succor and assistance for the flood and storm victims will be both prompt and generous. The blow which has fallen on the cities and sections will naturally prove discouraging and disheartening, but the experience will pass and then will begin the work of upbuilding and restoring. The one irretrievable loss is the unfortunate number of casualties, for the property losses can mostly be repaired and restored. And in the deep sorrow which has come to those who have lost friends and relatives in this calamitous visitation the entire nation will join, with heartfelt sympathy and condolences. It is just such experiences, in fact, which make the whole world kin and renew the universal bond of human brotherhood.

THE AGE OF HEROISM.

(Gary, Ind., Tribune.)

This is the age of steel. It is also the age of heroism.

Men do not nowadays go out with spear and gaily caparisoned horse to seek lady fair and deed of chivalry. They stay at home at the store, in the factory, in the mill, toiling often into the night to get enough to keep the children in school. The street car conductor with his wife and two children, stands on the back of his car so sick he can hardly stand. He must earn enough to

pay the rent. The widow scrubs in the office building half the night to keep her children from being sent to a home.

It's heroism in the closet. No grand-stand work impels this sort of thing. Nobody sees and nobody applauds. But it is the real stuff of which the heroes of tournament, battle and disaster are made. When catastrophe comes, the spirit of sacrifice breaks out. It is no respecter of persons. The janitor may rise above the owner of his skyscraper. And in the flood, fire, frost and famine of Dayton another glowing annal in the records of the age of heroism will be written. . .

Each succeeding calamity will add its mite or its million to the book of heroes of this age. It is an age of heroism because its people are more free to think and do than ever mankind was before. The spirit which clamors for its rights in law will the more readily give up its rights to life. Men will fight for the right to live their lives in justice and throw them away at another's call.

Dayton will take its place among the world's disasters—and also in that noble role so honored by the Titanic, when its tale is told.

THE HAND OF DESTINY

(Chicago Examiner, March 30.)

Seemingly in anger, it reaches from the unknown, without warning and without explanation. No knowledge of man can tell him upon what spot of this earth the devastating touch next will fall—where Nature's

giant grip shall crush man's proudest works and squeeze life from the breasts of a multitude in a tick or two of the clock.

Those who now escape the clutch can only bow to the unseen force and strive to alleviate the suffering it has caused; to feed the mouths from which it has snatched food; to care for the orphan and comfort the widow; to rebuild the home turned to driftwood and to retrieve from the elements the remains of the dead—then await in the darkness of awful uncertainty its next visitation, an inevitable occurrence so long as the world shall last.

Chicago herself has felt the blighting Hand. Its scars upon her heart have been a reminder—if one were needed—of the sympathy and succor that once flowed into her charred gates from the outside world. And it is a matter of pride to every Chicagoan that in the forefront of the cities, states and nations that have rushed to the aid of Ohio and Indiana was Chicago—with a full purse slashed wide open.

A BIG BROTHER NEEDED

(Chicago Journal, March 27.)

When six great states are swept by tornado and flood, when hundreds of victims are dead and many thousands are homeless because of disasters beyond their power to control, it is time for the federal government of the United States to act as a big, strong brother to those in distress.

United States troops will be sent on request to help local authorities keep order. The marine hospital service, perhaps the finest sanitary organization in the world, will be sent to take charge of the health of the stricken district if requested to do so. That request should be made without delay. The corps that stopped plague in San Francisco and yellow fever in New Orleans is competent to deal with the situation in the flooded towns of Indiana and Ohio.

But soldiers and sanitarians are not enough. The survivors of the worst flood of American history need protection and medical care; but their most immediate need is for clothing, provisions, fuel and shelter. If congress were in session, an appropriation would be made on the instant to carry relief to the flood district. There should be some way in which this aid can be given without waiting for congress.

Some permanent fund should be created which the president can use in emergencies like this whether congress is in session or not.

The national government ought to mean something more than a tax collecting agency and a bulwark against foreign aggression. It should provide relief in calamities which, by their very magnitude, get outside the jurisdiction of states and the power of private philanthropy.

COMMENTS OF THE PRESS

SNOW, RAIN AND DISASTER

(Chicago Evening Post, March 26.)

Three inches of snow followed by a warm rain caused the great disasters in Ohio and Indiana.

Every spring the creeks and rivers of these rich valleys have their freshets. Usually the rush of water is held in by the strong dikes which the people have raised in their own protection. This year the safeguarding embankments have been suddenly overtopped, and there has resulted a disaster so widespread that we can but begin to guess at its real damage to human life and property.

The suddenness of it all is the most appalling feature. The city of Dayton has gone along prosperously and uneventfully ever since a party of revolutionary soldiers laid it out as a town in 1796. The only event that breaks its civic history is the opening in 1828 of the power canal which now seems to have betrayed it. Year after year the Great Miami, Mad and Stillwater Rivers and Wolf Creek have had their freshets like civilized rivers, poured the overflow into the spillways, respected the sanctity of the dikes and subsided.

Now in a week all this good record is wiped out. It has not been a snowy winter. Probably Dayton expected that the spring floods would be less than usual. Then, just before Easter, two or three inches of wet snow fell. It turned into rain. Every field and street

and house roof over the vast watershed contributed its little trickle of melted slush. And the greatest flood in Ohio history was born.

THE FLOOD SUFFERERS

(Chicago Daily News, March 27.)

Seldom have the people of this nation been more profoundly stirred by a disaster than they are now by the terrible happenings in Dayton, Peru and many other stricken cities in the flood districts of Ohio and Indiana. Prosperous communities, where the people dwelt in what they supposed to be absolute security, have been suddenly turned into centers of peril, starvation and death. The people of these communities are our own people, with our outlook on life, our virtues and our faults.

We must all help these people. We almost feel that we are suffering with them, they are so near to us in kinship and sentiment. Chicago through its city government, its great business organizations and its other agencies for good works is responding splendidly to the call for help. All other communities near and far are giving help according to their means and their opportunities.

When the imperiled have been rescued, the hungry fed, the sick and injured given proper care, the homeless provided with shelter and the dead buried, the time

will be at hand for this country to consider well the needless risks that many communities are taking. Floods are not novelties along the rivers in the low, rich and populous valleys of the Middle West. It is time to protect the cities in those valleys from such disasters as that which now appalls the nation.

Protective measures wisely applied should be henceforth a leading test of Government efficiency in the districts subject to floods. Populous cities cannot longer afford to lie defenseless in the path of raging waters.

ANOTHER FLOOD.

—Detroit, Mich., News.

CHAPTER XX

LESSONS OF THE FLOOD

Among the lessons to be learned from the floods in the Ohio valley is that of the folly and danger of denuding our hills of their forest cover. Throughout the flooded district, all over the Middle West, the axe of the lumberman, wielded in the spirit of commercialism that disregards the future, has stripped the hillsides and left them bare of trees. Scientifically speaking, this has deprived the valleys of the district of their greatest natural means of protection against flood.

For many years the doctrine of reforestation has been preached by scientific foresters. Men like Gifford Pinchot and his associates and successors in the United States Forest Service have pointed out the dangers sure to follow the denudation of many of our states of their protective covering of tree growths.

But the warning has been laughed at, ridiculed and disregarded even though there have been annual floods of greater or less extent, distinctly traceable to the lack of forest cover on the hills. Little attention has been paid by legislators to this important question, and their

people are now reaping the reward of the shortsightedness or blindness of their representatives.

THE NATIONAL FORESTS

Forests are scientifically regarded as in part a means of regulating water flow for irrigation and to this end national forests have been established in this country, following the example of older civilizations that have passed through similar experiences to ours in the matter of flood damages. And at this juncture, when death and desolation from flood have so recently been the sad experience of many communities in the Middle West, it is opportune to recall some of the important facts that have been given to the public time and time again by the Forest Service. The following quotations from recent bulletins of the service will, therefore, be read with much interest:

1. "It should be clearly understood that in regions of heavy rainfall—for example, on the Pacific slopes in Washington, Oregon, Northern California and Alaska, national forests are not made for the purpose of regulating the water flow for irrigation. In these localities there is plenty of water to spare. The forests here are created and maintained to protect the timber and keep it in the people's hands for their own present and future use and to prevent the water from running off suddenly in destructive floods."

THE FUNCTION OF FORESTS

2. "What forests do, and this no one of experience disputes, is to nurse and conserve the rain and snow after they have fallen. Water runs down a barren, hard surface with a rush, all at once. It runs down a spongy, soft surface much more slowly, little by little. A very large part of the rain and snow of the arid regions falls upon the great mountain ranges. If these were bare of soil and vegetation, the waters would rush down to the valleys below in floods. But the forest cover—the trees, brush, grass, weeds and vegetable litter—acts like a big sponge. It soaks up the water, checks it from rushing down all at once, and brings about an even flow during the whole season.

"The forest cover is very important in preventing erosion and the washing down of silt. If the slopes were bare and the soil unprotected, the waters would carry down with them great quantities of soil, gradually filling up the resorvoirs and canals and causing immense damage to the great irrigation systems. The government engineers who are building these reservoirs and canals say that their work will be unsuccessful unless the drainage basins at the headwaters of the streams are protected by national forests."

EARLY RESTRICTIONS BY LAW

3. "As far back as the sixteenth century there were local restrictions in France against clearing mountain

sides, enforced by fines, confiscation, and corporal punishment. In the main these prevented ruinous stripping of hillsides, but with the French Revolution these restrictions were swept aside and the mountains were cleared at such a rate that disastrous effects were felt within ten years. By 1803 the people had become aroused to the folly of this cutting. Where useful brooks had been there now rushed torrents which flooded the fertile fields and covered them with sterile soil washed from the mountains. The clearing continued unchecked until some 800,000 acres of farm land had been ruined or seriously injured, and the population of eighteen departments had been reduced to poverty and forced to emigrate.

"By 1860 the State took up the problem, but in such a way that the burden of expense for reforestation was thrown upon the mountaineers, who, moreover, were deprived of much pasturage. Complaints naturally arose. An attempt was made to check torrents by sodding instead of by forest planting. This, however, proved a failure, and recourse was again had to planting, by the law of 1882, which provides that the State shall bear the costs. Since then the excellent results of planting have completely changed public sentiment. The mountaineers are most eager to have the work go on and are ready to offer their land for nothing to the forest department.

"In France, then, forestry has decreased the danger from floods, which threatened to destroy vast areas of fertile farms, and in doing so has added many millions of dollars to the national wealth in new forests. It has removed the danger from sand dunes; and in their place has created a property worth many millions of dollars."

TRACING THE CAUSE

The following editorial in the St. Louis Times, March 26, called attention to disregarded warnings of danger:

"Scientific men have been sounding warnings to the American people a good many years past, the tenor of which has been that the general deforestation of millions of acres must inevitably bring about changed and dangerous conditions in the American valleys and lowlands.

"While the prevailing storms, not unexpected during the equinoctial periods every year, may be regarded in part as being quite extraordinary, and not to be traced to the cutting away of the forests, it is reasonable to suppose that changed conditions may have something to do with the vastly increased degree of havoc that is being wrought.

"It is reasonable enough to suppose that the removal of the forests has given fuller sweep not only to the winds but to the waters resulting from heavy rains. Thus it may be concluded that an immediate need throughout

the whole of the Mississippi Valley is the establishment of more reliable channels for the rivers.

"Local floods are always traceable to the fact that the channel of a near-by stream has failed to perform its duty; and general floods are merely the accumulation of many local disturbances.

"In the meantime, the evils to be guarded against throughout a vast territory in the Mississippi Valley are those which always follow a period of flood, after the waters have subsided: fevers and other kinds of disease.

"These may be combated successfully by the liberal use of lime or a solution of carbolic acid, and by strict attention to the water supply.

"Ultimately, however, there must be an attack at the root of the evil of flood conditions, so far as those conditions are a result of man's recklessness and thoughtlessness."

THE CASE FOR REFORESTATION

The disastrous floods in Ohio and Indiana are a terrible reminder of the peril which comes from denuding the country of its forests, said the Chicago Daily News, March 27. It is well established that floods in river valleys are largely prevented by a heavy forest covering along the headwaters of the streams. The humus, roots and litter of the forest floor collect and hold the moisture in sponge-like fashion. Consequently there is better and slower distribution and flow and

the destructive influences of the waters are practically eliminated. Moreover, snow melts slowly in forests.

Prof. John Gifford, of Cornell University, an authority on forestry, writes: "Although it is possible for floods to occur in regions which are forested, they are uncommon, and the damage is usually slight." He points out that it has been demonstrated in Europe that forests play an important part in flood prevention.

To what extent amends might be made in Ohio and Indiana for the general destruction of the forests is problematical. Aside from the building of levees to protect the surrounding lands from overflow, there seems to be little other recourse save that of reforestation. But one great obstacle to this in Ohio is that there is practically no waste land. Farms occupy 94 per cent of the State's area and over 78 per cent of these farm lands are improved. Agriculture is likewise Indiana's main interest. Its farms cover a large part of the State's area and are extremely valuable. The low watersheds of these States are raising crops and cannot be turned back into forest tracts.

One of the policies adhered to by the National Forest Reservation Commission, authorized three years ago by the Weeks law, has been to consider for purchase only cheap lands that are practically useless for cultivation. Yet the movement for forest conservation and the replacing of cutoff forests is being constantly stimu-

lated and encouraged, partly because European countries have found reforestation not only necessary but profitable. In 1911, for instance, Prussia's net income from its forests, controlled by the State, was estimated at $18,500,000. So it is found that up to 1912 more than 2,000 acres of forest land had been planted in Massachusetts under the direction of the State forester and 1,500 acres by private individuals. Many other States are becoming interested in forestry.

Doubtless the annual recurrence of destructive floods will quicken the reforestation movement, though almost insuperable obstacles are presented to it in such level and fertile regions as those in Ohio and Indiana that suffer from disastrous floods.

THE DISASTER AT DAYTON

(Philadelphia Telegram, March 26.)

The calamity at Omaha has been swiftly eclipsed by the disaster at Dayton. The West seems to be in the grip of a combination of untoward circumstances beyond human foresight to have avoided and almost beyond human ingenuity to prevent.

That something must be done on a large scale when the waters recede and the wreckage is repaired is evident. That it will tax the ingenuity of the best engineering skill we have no shadow of a doubt.

But it is cheering to remember that the United States is fortunate enough to possess a corps of world-beaters

in those who built the Panama Canal. These are now about to be released from their great task. Will it not be the part of wisdom to summon them to the aid of our always threatened and now sorely afflicted fellow-citizens of the Mississippi Valley?

THE WESTERN DELUGE

(Philadelphia Inquirer, March 27.)

After making all allowances for incomplete information and inevitable exaggerations due to excitement it is evident that the destruction of life and property in the Middle West has reached unparalleled proportions. Never before has desolation spread over such a wide area.

In past years there have been many floods with great losses, but generally along the Ohio and Mississippi banks. Through some culmination of natural forces the deluge of rain for days has been along the upper reaches of the affluents of these rivers and the damage has been caused by the rush of this immense amount of water to reach the great rivers through narrow and deep natural channels. As a result banks have been overflowed, and cities, towns and villages have been damaged or destroyed.

Much of the destruction is due to the fact that the States of Ohio, Indiana and Illinois have been almost denuded of such forests as originally stood there. No impediment is offered to the flow of water and disastrous

results follow. But in any event there would have been great floods because of the location of the rainstorms as noted. The situation was all the worse because in a good portion of the inundated region the ground had frozen during a recent cold snap. Seven inches of rainfall spread over many millions of acres makes a mass that is almost inconceivable.

Although such a disaster may not soon recur because the recent combination of circumstances is unusual, it seems certain that it must lead to a scientific study of the problem of controlling so far as may be the great water courses of the country. It is certain that in a few days the lower Mississippi will be flooded once more, and it is feared that the loss will be greater than ever before. Government engineers have studied the problem a long time and have made many recommendations, none of which have been put into effect save in a few special localities. A commission of experts ought to be put to work by congress to undertake one of the greatest conservation problems which confronts the nation.

SAYS FLOODS COULD BE AVOIDED

A leading Chicago preacher who spoke March 30 on the flood situation to the members of his congregation, said:

"The country is willing and anxious to spend money for the maintenance of an army and navy, yet it is almost

impossible to gain an appropriation for the building of dikes and levees.

"If part of these millions were spent in aiding to tame nature a repetition of the Indiana and Ohio disaster could be avoided in the future. It is time that the municipal, state and federal governments took some action toward protecting the lives and property of the citizens."

THE OHIO FLOODS.

(Topeka, Kas., Capital, March 27.)

Ohio's floods are unusually early this year, and the most destructive both of life and property ever experienced. No like disaster was ever known in this country before, not even the awful Johnstown flood, as the loss of so many hundred lives in Dayton caused by sudden rise in flood waters and the breaking of levees and dams. But Dayton is not the only sufferer, several rivers in Ohio as well as in Indiana being out of their banks and floods causing enormous losses in many towns.

Such things are frequently reported from the Chinese Empire, but seldom or never from Europe. The "old world" in fact is not wealthy enough to be able to afford letting things go, or saving immediate expenditure of money in every safeguard and protective measure that can be taken, and thus to be faced with the danger of severe loss in a critical time. Europe's cities, in short, learned long ago that a dollar spent today in permanent works will save a score of dollars from the elements, water, fire or disease. On the other hand, it is true that in haste to grow and thrive such permanent matters have been overlooked in our own country and

our cities have, as has often been said, "just growed." These protective measures will in time be taken. Floods will be prevented or guarded against. Perhaps flood waters will actually be utilized, becoming a blessing instead of a calamity.

It is the consideration of such problems, and in fact all the problems of a rational plan of development and growth, that has brought out the project, very common among Europe's cities, and becoming popular here, of the so-called Survey. Disastrous floods, imperiling life every year or so in a region so thickly settled, rich and intelligent as the Ohio or Mississippi valley are not creditable to the country. These calamities of nature are excusable in the Chinese empire or India, but not in the United States.

LIVING UNDER THE LEVEE.

(Davenport, Iowa, Democrat, March 26.)

The floods on the Ohio and its tributaries emphasize again the danger to which many cities and immense areas of land are exposed by the rising water of American rivers. Some districts are endangered by weak levees, incapable of withstanding the strain of extreme flood conditions. Others are exposed because of the lack of levees.

The present costly experience will serve to call attention again to a more definite, systematic and liberal policy on the part of both the state and federal governments, for the strengthening of the levee systems of the country. Combined with a scientific drainage system, this will save thousands of lives and millions of dollars

worth of property that are now lost by floods, and add immensely to the area of land which the American farmer can bring under cultivation.

CONTROLLING FLOODED RIVERS

(Chicago Daily News, March 29.)

In natural sequence to the reports of floods due to the overflow from small rivers come warnings of damage to be expected along the great rivers to which the lesser streams are tributary. With such a volume of water rushing toward them, it is not to be expected that the Ohio and Mississippi will escape abnormally bad overflows this year. Nor is it to be expected that even the best efforts of forewarned populations living in districts which always feel the worst effects of spring floods will prevent loss of life and heavy property damage.

No concerted and effective effort has been made as yet to control these rivers when they run wild. Levee systems are inadequate and the temporary makeshifts used to keep the rivers to their banks often prove wholly insufficient. Since it is known that annual floods of greater or less intensity are to be expected, it is in order for adequate preventive measures to be taken. But who is to do the work and meet the expense?

There is unquestionably an important national aspect to the matter. Injury done by such floods as those of last year from Cairo to the gulf work direct and reflex harm to the nation. Further, the waters come from forty-one states and furnish a startling illustra-

tion of the nation's past indifference to reforestation and the other elements of flood prevention.

The nation's responsibility in the matter is recognized in the so-called Newlands bill, which passed the senate but was not brought up in the house at the recent session of congress. This measure provided for an annual appropriation for ten years of $50,000,000 to control and standardize the flow of rivers by every feasible means—through storage, through drainage, through perpetuation and renewal of forests, through the construction of necessary engineering works. In short, a comprehensive plan was proposed in this bill for making the great river systems the servants of the people at all times instead of cruel masters at flood times. It provided, further and logically, that financial and other cooperation of state and local authorities should be sought in this constructive work, and that the extent of this expenditure should be "at least equal in amount to the sum expended by the United States." Manifestly, the federal treasury should not bear all the expense.

The subject of the use and control of rivers ought to be treated in this broad manner. Such treatment is advocated by the National Drainage Congress, which will soon meet in St. Louis, and it should have behind it the force of well developed public opinion.

That is the view generally expressed over the country—that it is time to take the lessons of recurring floods to heart and inaugurate scientific plans for their prevention.

PLAN TO AVERT FLOODS

Work toward the prevention of the recurrence of such catastrophes as the Ohio and Indiana floods was begun in Chicago March 28, by members of the National Drainage Congress, folllowing the receipt of a telegram from President Wilson. The chief executive, replying to an invitation to attend the meeting of the congress in St. Louis, April 10-12, agreed with the sentiments expressed in the invitation and asserted his hope that the deliberations of the drainage assembly would result in a plan of prevention.

The president's message was as follows:

"Edmund T. Perkins, Chairman Executive Committee, National Drainage Congress, Chicago, Ill.: I regret that it is impossible for me to attend the sessions of the National Drainage Congress. The calamity in Ohio and Indiana makes clearer than ever before the imperative and immediate necessity for a comprehensive and systematic plan for drainage and flood control. I very earnestly hope that your deliberations may mark a long step forward in this direction. Accept my best wishes for a successful meet. "WOODROW WILSON."

The following reply was wired the president:

"The President, White House, Washington, D. C.: Your message of March 27 received. Recognizing the unavoidability of your absence from St. Louis April 10, the National Drainage Congress, saddened by the tre-

mendous flood disasters now inflicted upon our country, and knowing that such catastrophes are needless, accepts the responsibility of presenting to the people and the Congress of the United States a plan to alleviate and prevent the recurrence of loss of life and property."

NEED OF WIRELESS

(Chicago Journal, March 26.)

The disasters in Ohio and Indiana prove the need of a comprehensive system of wireless telegraphy; a system that shall be floodproof and tornadoproof, and that will make it impossible for any considerable number of people or section of country to be cut off from the rest of the world.

Several hundred people are dead in the track of the floods. Thousands are marooned on hillocks or housetops; shelterless, fireless and hungry. Their friends can get no word of comfort to them, and they can get no call for help to their friends. Suspense caused by lack of communication doubles the agony of the disaster.

If this terrible experience ever is repeated, it should find the country prepared. The United States weather bureau could use a wireless system very handily in its daily work. The war department would need such a system in case of war. Unless private enterprise installs wireless as a commercial enterprise, government should do so as emergency provision against disaster.

CHAPTER XXI

THE OMAHA TORNADO

Graphic Description of the Destructive Storm That Devastated the Nebraska City on Easter Sunday.

Death and destruction unparalleled in the history of Omaha, and a property loss even exceeding that of the St. Louis disaster of 1896, traveled with a terrific tornado which mowed a wide and grewsome path through the big Nebraska city late on the afternoon of Sunday, March 23, 1913.

A balmy spring day, typical in its fleeting glimpses of the sun and threatening of showers, developed into a driving rain storm and then, in a twinkling of an eye, into a devastating monster of annihilation. And as the dead were carried to the morgues, and the maimed moaned from the wreckage, and the yellow skies glowed with the carmine reflection of hundreds of burned homes, it was recalled that it was Easter Sunday!

Cyclonic conditions, unknown to all, prevailed over the Missouri valley during the day, and a gigantic

twister suddenly appeared, at 5:45 o'clock, as a manifestation of this disturbance.

The wind demon came careering over the prairies from the southwest and drove a diagonal course through the residence district to the northeast, finally crossing the river near the Illinois Central bridge and wreaking its half-spent fury on the city of Council Bluffs.

In its wake was left a death list of 115 in Omaha alone, nearly 2,000 ruined homes and a total monetary loss of over $8,000,000 in the metropolis.

Before and after blazing its horrid trail through Omaha, the roaring fiend reaped a grim harvest of lives and property in the outlying districts of Nebraska and Iowa, but it was in Omaha that its awful power was felt most keenly.

The huge, fashionable residences of the denizens of West Farnam hill suffered alike with the simple cottages of West Side and the substantial homes of Bemis Park and northern Omaha. Great industries saw their buildings collapse like cardboard creations of childhood, traffic companies saw their well-oiled systems tied up completely; municipal fire and police departments were made to realize an absolute and humiliating helplessness. United States troops and the Nebraska National Guard companies of Omaha, called into service in this incomprehensible disaster, found themselves all too few.

WAS THOUGHT TORNADO-PROOF

Omaha had long been regarded as tornado-proof, on account of its barricade of surrounding hills, but this imaginary protection was swiftly proven a flimsy fabric indeed. The twister, reaping a harvest over half a mile wide, swept over the hilltops and down the valleys with the neat and deadly precision of some omnipotent mowing machine. In its ghastly path nothing escaped. That the carefully checked list of dead was not already much larger is inexplicable. The obliteration, complete and incomprehensible, of whole blocks of residences furnishes ocular proof of the irresistible force of the mighty, whirling gale.

The business section escaped almost intact, but the prized and boasted residence section of the city became, for the most part, but a dismal reminder of what has been. Streets and boulevards were so enmeshed in wreckage that travel, even on foot, was practically impossible, while street car and telephone service was, for two days, almost nil. Automobiles and other vehicles were likewise nearly helpless and the great metropolis did not realize for several days the full extent of the disaster which had fallen upon it.

The great tornado entered Omaha near Fifty-first and Center streets, struck the crest of Farnam hill near Thirty-ninth street, plowed on to Sixteenth and Man-

derson street, thence east across the Missouri and then turned south into Council Bluffs.

Scenes of desolation and horror followed the wind monster into the city. The tornado, when first noticed, seemed to be forming southwest of Ralston, and came seething over the Lane cut-off just west of the point where the Northwestern Black Hills line passes underneath. It carried the complete roof of some big barn or residence, which flapped wildly, like a gigantic and grewsome crow.

It swept down the valley of the Little Papillion creek, and suddenly bent to the east, passing directly along the right of way of the Missouri Pacific railroad, striking West Lawn cemetery and cutting a wide swath between Concordia Park and the city limits. Death and destruction lurked in its wake.

SOME PERSONAL EXPERIENCES

A party of four Omaha business men was returning from a "hike" to Millard on the Center street road, and the five were caught directly in the path of the tornado. They saved themselves by leaping into the muddy creekbed of the Little Papillion and clinging to the roots of the laboring trees. In the party was Robert D. Neely and Charles McLaughlin, of the law firm of Neely & McLaughlin; H. F. Neely, of the Equitable Life Insurance Company, and William Marsh.

This party followed the path of the storm along the Missouri Pacific track to Forty-eighth and Leavenworth streets. No sooner had the twister raged onward into the distance than the rain developed into a terrific downpour, accompanied by hail, and then sleet. The first idea of the damage that had been done came with the dull, crimson spots of fire which broke out, one after another, all over the horizon along the wake.

A MODERN PAUL REVERE

A slender farmer boy, his face streaming with blood, came galloping down the pike astride a winded, unsaddled horse. He stopped at a tavern at Concordia Park.

"Father is in the ruins and the house is on fire!" he sobbed. "Can you get Omaha on the telephone? I want the fire department! I want the fire department and some men with axes!"

He was assured that the telephone service had been temporarily destroyed. He again mounted his horse and galloped off toward the city. Over the turmoil of the rain, wind and sleet came the echo of his crazed laugh. He would not even say who he was nor where the ruins of his wrecked home were pinning the body of his father to a fiery death.

Mrs. Henry Olson, hysterically weeping, dragged herself into the tavern a few minutes later and merely pointed through the driving storm to a glow which was

spelling ruin for herself and home. She was a widow and lost everything. She cannot say how she escaped. Her cottage was close to the entrance to West Lawn cemetery and she was veritably blown out of it.

Telegraph and telephone poles fell across Center street and the network of wires made rescue work impossible. House after house burst into flames, having been turned over upon the stoves within. Twenty minutes after the tornado had passed the party counted seventeen different fires, besides the complete conflagration at West Side and in Omaha. These were the disappearing domiciles of poor people, or, at least, people in very moderate circumstances. Besides these the valley was completely stripped by the wind. The tracks and roads were covered with debris.

SCENES ON THE WEST SIDE

Shrieks and cries and moans came from every direction along the Missouri Pacific from Center to Leavenworth streets, but rescue work was almost impossible. Hysterical men and women were responsible for much of this awful clamor and seemed unable to tell what they wished done or to express the slightest desire for aid.

A man named Kreidmer, a foreigner, unable to speak but a few words of English, came staggering, stumbling down a hillside in the storm, and by the fitful glare of the lightning the party saw that he was coming from his house, which was tipped from its foundation.

The cottage had the rakish, debonaire tilt of a new hat on the head of a drunken man. Kreidmer lives—or lived—at Forty-ninth and William streets—and his wife and two babies were gone. The party explored the damaged residence, but no trace of the missing was found. Kreidmer had just built the house and was unacquainted in the neighborhood. He had no idea where his family had gone, having been away when the tornado struck. The man was crazed with grief, and threw himself into the mire and muck alongside the track. He could not be consoled.

Between Poppleton avenue and Leavenworth street there was a long string of heavily laden coal cars standing on a siding. Against these had been crushed at least half a dozen houses which had previously stood on the slope to the west. The wreck was complete and the stoves had started a long string of fires, which seemed, from a distance, like a sort of magnificent decorative scheme. The flames ate rapidly into the coal, which burned for several days.

In this wreckage was every article of the household badly exposed to view. A splinter, apparently torn from the side of one of the houses, was driven into the side of one of the coal cars so compactly that it could not be even moved.

That portion of Omaha known as West Side was almost completely ruined and wrecked by the storm.

What few residences and store buildings were not smashed by the twister were burned by the long series of fires which ensued. Many were killed and injured.

AN EMERGENCY HOSPITAL

The West Side station of the Missouri Pacific and the switch shanty nearby were turned into emergency relief stations and were crowded with the injured. A druggist applied such first aid as he could supply and an effort was made to secure a relief train from the railroad, but the fact that the roundhouse in North Omaha had been destroyed made this almost impossible. An engine and car finally got through after a few hours and brought doctors and clothing.

Pitiful tales were told by the silent crowd of refugees in the section house.

L. F. Stover, 4952 Poppleton avenue, employed in the wall paper department of Hayden Bros.' stores, returned to his home to find that it had completely disappeared and his wife and three babies gone. They were later found, injured, at the county hospital.

C. E. Walsh, 1314 South Forty-eighth street, was carrying his baby boy and escorting his wife toward their home from the street car when struck by the storm. All three were rolled and blown nearly three blocks and were severely cut and bruised.

John Hanson, a car sweeper living at Forty-eighth and Maberry avenue, was killed in the wreck of his

home and the body of his wife was found in the burned ruins.

Fred Nash, 4535 Leavenworth street, with his wife and three children, were buried in the wreckage of their home when the tornado hit it. Irwin, a 3-year-old boy, was badly hurt, but a month-old baby was taken from the mass of splinters unhurt.

HOUSES TOTALLY DESTROYED

At Forty-eighth and Pacific streets the storm was particularly violent and the damage severe. Twelve houses, largely owned by those who occupied them, were totally destroyed, first wrecked by the wind and then consumed with most of their contents, by fires started from stoves. Eight of the occupants were killed outright and a score injured, more or less seriously.

The tornado missed the county hospital, but all the barns and sheds connected with the institution were destroyed. Eight cows in one of the barns were rescued from the debris with much difficulty.

Two large chimneys on the Columbia school building were toppled over and crashed through the roof of the structure.

A street car was turned over at Forty-eighth and Leavenworth streets. When the motorman saw the tornado coming he jumped and ran, but L. F. Stover, who was on the car, tried to operate it and ran it into a cut across the railroad tracks and farther up the hill.

The twister struck before he could do so, however, and he was painfully cut by the flying glass and splinters. A baby was killed in his father's arms in this car.

Charles Clavier, 4669 Leavenworth street, was at dinner with his wife and 18-year-old daughter when his house was blown down about his ears. They all crawled from the wreckage badly bruised.

Ambulances could not reach this badly smitten district for a long time because of the fallen poles and network of wires.

Those whose homes were not injured did all in their power to relieve those left destitute, but the work was slow, because of the absence of all telephonic communication.

OMAHA, NEB.

Omaha, Neb., the largest city of Nebraska, capital of Douglas County, is on the Missouri, which is crossed by a railroad bridge 2,750 feet long. The city is built on a plain 80 feet above the river, which rises gradually into bluffs. The business section is on the level portion, while the bluffs are occupied by tasteful homes. The city hall, United States courthouse, Omaha Bee building, New York Life Insurance Company's building, Boyd's Theater, St. Joseph's Hospital, chamber of commerce, state asylum for the deaf, Creighton College, a medical college and over 100 churches are among its

prominent buildings. The Bee is the most important newspaper published between San Francisco and Chicago. Omaha ranks with Chicago and Kansas City as a live-stock market, having immense stockyards, which cover over 200 acres, and large beef and pork-packing establishments, being the third city in the United States in the value of its pork-products. The manufactures include linseed oil, boilers, safes, bags, soap and beer. The largest silver smelting works in the world, using one-fourth of the silver ore mined in the United States, are at Omaha. The military department of the Platte, covering 82½ acres, with fine barracks, is near the city. The public schools are maintained at an annual cost of $1,500,000; the buildings consist of 49 grade schools and one high school; besides, the city has a public library, Creighton College two, the Y. M. C. A. one (and six other libraries belong to fraternal societies) and a fine art gallery. Fourteen trunk lines enter the city, and there are two magnificent stations. Omaha was founded in 1854, and rapidly became one of the leading western cities. Population 124,096.

THE TOLL OF EASTER DAY IN OMAHA AND VICINITY.

The Terrible Tale of America's Worst Tornado.

Omaha and Environs.

	Dead.	Injured.	Property Loss.
Omaha	115	352	$5,000,000
Council Bluffs	11	15	300,000
Ralston	7	20	250,000
Totals	133	387	$5,550,000

Nebraska.

Yutan	18	21	$ 300,000
Berlin	7	17	350,000
Mead	2	2	50,000
Rock Bluffs	1	1	10,000
Fremont	..	2	1,500
Bennington	..	7	5,000
De Soto	2	10	6,000
Valley	..	6	1,250
Plattsmouth	..	1	1,000
Nehawka	1	12	5,000
Waterloo	..	6	2,500
Greenwood	..	4	1,500
Tekamah	..	2	1,000
Craig	6	2	2,500
Total, Nebraska	37	93	$ 737,250

Iowa.

Glenwood	5	12	$ 125,000
Woodbine	..	8	300,000
Beebertown	2	10	125,000
Gilliat	2	5	75,000
Weston	2	11	100,000
Neola	3	4	50,000
Total, Iowa	14	50	$ 775,000
Grand total	177	510	$7,062,250

Homes destroyed in Omaha..... 642
Homes wrecked in Omaha.....1,669
Persons left homeless in Omaha.....6,834

CHAPTER XXII

IN THE STORM'S PATH

In bringing to Omaha the unenviable distinction of being the scene of the most disastrous tornado in the history of the United States, not even excepting that of St. Louis over a decade ago, Easter's big twister plainly marked its path, the width of which may be measured in feet and inches. Great residences and buildings were cut so cleanly in two that a mathematician might employ the calipers in aligning the exact, razor edge of the storm.

As far as can be ascertained, the twister started upon its career of horror somewhere in Cass county, wiping out the town of Yutan, and then striking through Waterloo and Ralston. Its zig-zag course was baffling, and many towns reported losses which indicate that the main stem of the tornado was constantly giving off smaller twisters which acted as flankers with the deadly intent of making a clean sweep over the outlying territory. Gretna and Union and Berlin felt the force of the wind, but the chief disaster lay in the path of the big, wide, all-powerful cloud which entered Omaha almost exactly at the city limits on Center street.

AT THE START OF THE STORM

The eastern boundary of the death-strewn course at this point seemed to be the county hospital and poor farm. Although the main building, with its hundreds of helpless inmates, was happily spared, all of the barns and outhouses of various sorts were swept clean. Ambitious golfers on the Field club links and on the verandas of the club house saw the work of devastation in progress. The western boundary lay along the Falls City branch of the Missouri Pacific until Forty-eighth and Leavenworth streets was reached, when the tornado seemed to swerve still more to the northeast, storming up the acclivity to the fashionable Farnam hill residence district. At this point the path was about five blocks in width and nothing but ruin was left within its confines. Forty-first street and Thirty-eighth street seemed the lines of demarkation at Dodge street.

But a minor twister detached itself from the main body in going over this hill and swept for several blocks down the draw along the Belt Line toward Walnut Hill. Luckily there were few houses or buildings along this path, and but comparatively little damage was done, the little tornado drawing itself into the sky before the densely populated district in Walnut Hill was reached.

The trail of the storm struck Farnam about Fortieth street, and ran northeast through Bemis Park just east

of the Methodist hospital, which was untouched. The big garage of the Packard Company at Fortieth was the first total wreck, with debris of broken machines and brick walls. West of Fortieth in the valley a few houses were wrecked and south on Fortieth as far as the neighborhood of the St. Cecilia cathedral, which was practically untouched, fine residences were wrecked on both sides of the street, including Dr. A. B. Somers,' the Barnes drug store and Judge Slabaugh's residence.

WRECKAGE LEFT BEHIND

Thirty-ninth street was full of wrecked houses from Farnam to Mr. Joslyn's $100,000 home, which had stones knocked out, windows wrecked, roof partially off and garage quite badly wrecked. Most of the houses on Thirty-ninth were badly wrecked to that point. Steering northeast, the trail struck Thirty-eighth street, where from Dodge north to Webster street the big mansions were in various degrees of ruin. Saunders school, in the valley west of Fortieth, had a great hole in the roof and windows out. Sacred Heart convent was quite badly damaged, part of the roof off, walls shaken and windows out. From about Thirty-seventh on Burt street east to Thirty-fourth the wreck was terrible. Homes of W. F. Baxter and T. B. Norris were piles of kindling. Houses were cut in two, with beds exposed in upper stories and debris dumped into the street. The trail crossed Cuming about Thirty-sixth.

While the hospital was not damaged, the home of J. H. Rushton, just a little east of north, was skinned in front, leaving the walls standing. It struck Lincoln boulevard about Thirty-fifth street, at the Dresher house, and from there east there was a total wreck of houses clear out of the park district. On Hawthorne it struck just west of Thirty-fourth at the home of W. A. Case, knocking out all windows and damaging his home and that of J. C. Buffington, but the fury of the storm leveled the houses from the boulevard north on Thirty-fourth street to Lincoln and Myrtle avenues, where much damage was done. Lafayette avenue, on the hill, was untouched, the storm following the valley. Then it lifted to the northeast.

Passing almost directly northward along the crest of the hill, which is known as Omaha's best home property, the tornado entered the Bemis park district, and left that beautiful section an awe-inspiring conglomeration of wreckage. At this point the path was about two blocks wide and proceeded directly northeast to Twenty-fourth and Burdette streets, traveling east of Thirty-third. It followed the contour of the hill, and Burdette was practically the south boundary of the destruction on Twenty-fourth. From thence the storm sped north and east of Twenty-fourth, through Kountz place, across Twenty-fourth and Lake streets, where many lives were lost, and thence diagonally to Sherman avenue.

WRECKED A ROUNDHOUSE

In crossing Sherman avenue the path extended from Binney street on the south to Emmet street on the north, and scarcely anything was left intact. Striking over the bluffs into the railroad yards, the tornado devasted the Missouri Pacific roundhouse, wreaked its fury on the rolling stock and then seethed across Carter Lake and the East Omaha bottoms.

A terrible, but beautiful spectacle accompanied the crossing of the lake, when the twister sucked the water high into the air, a real water spout. The cottages along the lake were mostly destroyed, the Illinois Central trestle obliterated and scores of store buildings wrecked. At this point the width of the path is said to have been nearly half a mile wide.

Crossing the Missouri river, the twister struck the bluffs and seemed to turn southward. That this was the case is evident from the damage done in the city of Council Bluffs, which reports that the storm came from the north.

At the same time another outrider of the main body of the tornado was crossing the river in Sarpy county, hitting up the Mosquito creek through Lake Manawa and the scattering residences and farms thereabouts. Another waterspout was noted on Manawa. This comparatively small twister disappeared after this work of destruction.

Other twisters were reported all up and down the Missouri and Platte river valleys, indicating the scope of the cyclonic conditions.

WHEN A FELLER NEEDS A FRIEND.

—Chicago Tribune.

CHAPTER XXIII

WHAT THE GOVERNOR SAW

When the belated news of the disaster at Omaha reached the executive mansion of Governor J. H. Morehead at Lincoln late in the evening, a special train was immediately chartered and rushed across the prairies to the stricken city, accompanied by Adjutant General Phil Hall of the Nebraska National Guard, Representative E. D. Mallory, and Nels Updike of Omaha, with others who went at the urgent request of Mayor James C. Dahlman, who was among the first to realize the extent of the damage done in the city.

Accompanied by Mayor Dahlman, H. W. Dunn, chief of police, and a score of newspaper representatives, the governor's party left the Paxton Hotel in autos shortly after 5 o'clock Monday morning.

Just as day was breaking the party reached Forty-second and Leavenworth streets. South of this place the storm started on its trip of death and destruction across the town. From this point the party traversed the entire wasted district.

"It's awful; awful!" Governor Morehead remarked before the trip was thirty minutes old.

GOVERNOR CONSOLES BEREAVED

Leaving his motor car the governor walked down through the streets, choked with debris, and in dozens of places went into the wrecked homes and personally consoled the bereaved and distracted men and women. Governor Morehead's presence seemed to bring a feeling of relief. The afflicted citizens realized that the state's executive was there to aid them in every way possible.

Down toward Fortieth and Farnam the party proceeded. Here was a scene of chaos. Again the governor got out of his car and personally inspected the ruins.

In this fashionable residence section of the city, where many of the town's richest men and women live, there was scarcely a home left intact. Business blocks were razed as if with an explosive. Great ten and twelve-room houses were askew on their foundations and others had been swept clear of their fastenings.

Down Fortieth street the motor cars proceeded, oftentimes being unable to progress till the roadway had been freed of debris. Homes where men and women had been rescued by policemen and firemen were pointed out, and Governor Morehead stopped more than once to personally commend some of the officers and fire fighters who had been constantly on duty through the night.

"JOSLYN CASTLE" WRECKED

Up toward the Joslyn "castle" the party made its way. Here still was desolation and waste. This beautiful and pretentious Joslyn estate was greatly damaged. The roof of the big stone house had been twisted off in places, windows were broken out, parts of the walls were torn away and the place presented a general appearance of ruin.

Over toward the Bemis park district the party made its way. This beautiful section of Omaha had been completely ruined. The pretty homes that adorned the graceful winding driveways were beyond redemption. The trees had been broken off short at the base, and many of them were even uprooted. One great home had been turned turtle onto the roof of the house adjoining it on the east.

The Convent of the Sacred Heart, not so very far from the Bemis park district, was badly damaged by the tornado. One entire section of the big building had been razed, and it was possible to see through the interior of the building from the street.

WONDERS SO MANY ESCAPED

Governor Morehead was keenly interested in everything he saw.

"It's miraculous how so many, many men and

women escaped with their lives," said he. "I cannot conceive how a storm so disastrous permitted a single person to live. It doesn't apear possible to me that anyone went through this awful thing and lived."

The party then went down through the Twenty-fourth street district. Here, if possible, the destruction was found to be greater than in the territory further south and west. In this congested district, where hundreds of the poorer families lived, in buildings closely adjoining each other, everything within view of the eye was in waste.

The automobiles were brought to a stop at Thirty-first and Hamilton streets. On the corner there A. E. Nelson conducted a little grocery store. All that was left to mark the site of the place was a great heap of bricks and broken timber. The bodies of two horses owned by Nelson could be seen in the ruins.

It was here that C. P. Weisen met his death. Nelson was within a few inches of Weisen's body when it was extricated. Nelson's head was severely cut and bruised. His father, Charles Nelson, received critical injuries in the wreck.

When the machines had progressed as far as it was possible north on Twenty-fourth street they were abandoned and the party made their way toward Lake street on foot. Climbing over telephone and telegraph poles, Governor Morehead led the sight-seers.

At Twenty-fourth and Grant streets the site of the Idlewild, a negro pool hall, was shown to the governor. Here, he was told, Willis C. Crosby, county coroner, rescued three negroes, but was driven back by fire and had to watch a fourth while he was slowly incinerated. In the ruins of this building twenty other bodies were found.

On the corner of Twenty-fourth and Lake streets, where there had been a two-story frame building—a saloon on the ground floor and living apartments overhead—there was but the ramshackle ruins of something that resembled a tumbledown squatter's shanty. Two men, who had lived there, were trying to locate some wearing apparel in the debris.

Farther out on Twenty-fourth street the same scenes caught the eye. Now and then the stern command of a soldier could be heard, and some person who had no business within the stricken field could be seen slinking away.

SCENE OF DEATH OF FOUR

At Twentieth and Ohio streets, where Clifford Daniels, a letter carrier, his wife and two small children met death, Governor Morehead stood for a long time and gazed at the ruins.

"I presume they did what they could to save their lives, but fate was against them," he said.

When someone told him that an 18-year-old boy of

the family escaped because he was not at home, the governor shook his head slowly, and said:

"I would not be surprised if he was to lose his reason."

On and on through the tornado's path the governor and his party went. Everywhere, just as far as could be seen in any direction, there was devastation. Finally Governor Morehead said:

"I can't stand any more; let's go back to the hotel. I have seen more destruction this morning than I believed possible. Omaha has received a terrific blow, but I am sure the citizens of this city will see to it that the wasted territory is immediately rebuilt.

"The loss of life is to be regretted, certainly, but everyone should be thankful that it is no greater. Had this storm swept across here at midnight, when everyone would have been sleeping, the death list would have been appalling. I am very grateful that no more lives were lost."

CHAPTER XXIV

THE WORK OF RELIEF

Immediately after the storm, and before half of the population of Omaha was even aware of the fact that a tornado had visited the city, three companies of the United States Army signal corps from Fort Omaha, under the command of Major Hartmann, were called to patrol the wrecked district. Local police and firemen with reserves of both branches were called to the scene of the disaster. Telegraph and telephone service being prostrated, the first news of the catastrophes to the outside world was rushed by T. R. Porter, a newspaper correspondent at Omaha, from the wireless station at Fort Omaha to Fort Riley, where the news was telegraphed all over the United States. When, shortly after midnight Sunday night, communication was established with Lincoln, Governor Morehead called out the militia to aid in protecting the persons and property of the unfortunates in the storm belt, and came to Omaha at once on a special train. Military rule was established over the entire district.

SIX RELIEF DISTRICTS

Under the direction of Mayor James C. Dahlman, the storm zone through the city was divided into six relief districts, the work of directly supervising the work of aiding the sufferers being placed under a responsible business man in each instance. Headquarters of a Citizen Relief committee in charge of the active work was established in the council chamber at the city hall, where contributions of money, clothing, groceries, furniture, medicines, bandages, and offers to house storm sufferers were received. Hundreds of cots and blankets were sent to the Auditorium, where Capt. F. G. Stritzinger, of the United States Army, who aided at Frisco after the earthquake, was in charge, and throngs of people slept there nightly. Cooking stoves were erected there, and immense supplies of necessities were provided, so that the multitude of victims of the storm might be fed and sheltered in the days and nights of severe weather that followed the storm. Women taken there in hardly enough clothing to be respectable, went away with arms laden with underwear and bedding, not only for themselves but often for some unfortunate neighbor who was not even able to make the trip to the supply stations which were established in each relief district. The automobiles of society folk mingled with the wagons of poor expressmen who had volunteered to deliver aid to the needy, and a physician was kept at each of the six relief stations both day and night. The public schools were

dismissed and teachers who were familiar with the different sections of the city were sent out by the school board to search out the homes of those who were in distress, but in many cases who were too proud to apply for public relief at the stations which were crowded during both day and night.

RESCUE PROVES DIFFICULT

Immediately after the storm, with the streets strewn with the remnants of a thousand homes, several thousand telephone, telegraph and electric light poles, it was with difficulty that the little parties of searchers with axes and in many instances without lanterns, went from ruin to ruin, calling repeatedly, and in many instances getting but a faint reply from the victims buried feet below the wreckage of their homes. Danger from the live wires which spurted wicked streams of blue flame from time to time along the littered streets impeded the progress of the rescue parties, while the deadly fumes of escaping gas from thousands of bursted pipes hastened relief to the pinioned sufferers beneath the tons of masonry and wreckage. Into hundreds of basements water poured through the newly found openings of torn and wrenched plumbing, while from the inky darkness which covered the sky, from horizon to horizon, torrents of rain poured down on the blazing ruins of homes which strewed the pathway of the tornado, drenching the half-dressed wounded survivors of the catastrophe.

STATEMENT BY COMMERCIAL CLUB

The Commercial Club of Omaha gave out a statement regarding loss of life and damage to property in the tornado. This was done in order to allay apprehension among the relatives and friends of the citizens of Omaha and to put before the country the actual facts, to take the place of the first meager reports that went out through various channels.

Telegrams of sympathy conveying offers of help poured in to the Commercial Club and to the mayor of the city. These were acknowledged and reply made that while the business men of Omaha appreciated the sympathy and generous offers of outside assistance, it was believed that Omaha could, for the time being, take care of the situation. The property loss, both real and personal, was first estimated at $5,000,000.

The statement by the Commercial Club was as follows:

"The tornado passed through the residential portion of the city from the southwest to northeast, traversing the wealthier section as well as that occupied by those in comfortable circumstances and the poorer classes. The path of the tornado was of a width averaging a quarter of a mile and five or six miles long. Fire broke out in the wreckage in twenty instances, and in spite of the difficulties confronting the fire department, especially in going from one fire to another through debris,

all of these were put out within a couple of hours. All injured persons were taken from the ruins and attended to during the night. The number injured is 322. Those killed number 139. These have all been taken from the ruins with the possible exception of nine who are missing, and have been attended to. This includes Omaha suburbs, as well as Omaha proper.

"Immediately following the disaster, under the direction of Mayor James C. Dahlman and operating through the police and fire departments, assistance was given wherever needed. Before any disorder or any looting could be attempted the federal troops from Fort Omaha, under Major C. F. Hartmann, were in charge of the situation, which was completely under control before daybreak Monday morning. Adjutant General Phil L. Hall arrived on an early morning train and took charge of the local militia who patrolled the southern portion of the city, while the regulars covered the northern half. Governor J. H. Morehead arrived in Omaha Monday morning and reported back to the state legislature in session that the situation was admirably handled and under perfect control. Monday saw the leading citizens assembled to take immediate steps for the relief of those in need of financial or other help. An executive committee of seven was made up as follows: T. J. Mahoney, attorney, chairman; T. C. Byrne, wholesaler; C. C. Rosewater, newspaper editor; Robert

Cowell, retailer; E. F. Denison, secretary Y. M. C. A.; Right Rev. A. L. Williams, and J. M. Guild, commissioner of the Commercial Club.

TERRITORY DISTRICTED

"The stricken territory was divided into districts and an absolute census taken of the entire situation, which was completed within twenty-four hours of the visitation. This has become the basis of all relief work, as everything has been card indexed, from the name, location, condition of house, names of occupants, their injuries, financial condition, where they are being sheltered, etc. This census shows a total of 1,669 houses damaged, of which 642 were totally destroyed, making 2,179 people homeless. These have been quartered in the homes of friends, in the Young Men's Christian Association, in the various missions and in the Auditorium, and all have been temporarily taken care of. The issuance of food and clothing is proceeding in a systematic way. The territory has been subdivided into six districts for the issuance of supplies, each in charge of a prominent business man right on the ground. These distributing depots are served from the downtown main supply depot and are in charge of the following men, one to each district: George H. Kelly, president of the Commercial Club; J. A. Sunderland, wholesaler; T. P. Redmond, retailer; John L. McCague, real estate; F. I. Ellick, printer, and Joseph Kelley, wholesaler.

"The Commercial Club desires to make it known that the path of the tornado was through the residential district only and affected no business institutions whatever; that there is no impairment of Omaha's business or its finances.

"A local finance committee, consisting of C. E. Yost, president of the Bell Telephone Company and vice-president of the Commercial Club, as chairman; J. L. Kennedy, attorney; C. M. Wilhelm, retailer; Sam Burns, Jr., stocks and bonds; W. D. Hosford, wholesaler; W. H. Bucholz, banker; H. A. Tukey, real estate, and C. C. Belden, retailer, was appointed at a largely attended meeting held today by the Commercial Club to finance the entire relief work, both immediate and for the future. The work of this committee involves the complete restoration of the buildings in the path of the storm.

"Commercial Club of Omaha,
"By George H. Kelly, President.
"C. E. Yost, Vice-President.
"J. M. Guild, Commissioner."

A LATER CALL FOR RELIEF

Four days later, when the real work of relief was well under way, the Commercial Club was forced to retract its former statement, and publicly admitted that relief in the shape of funds and supplies would be welcome from any source whatever. The property loss

was also verified and indications five days after the storm were that the property loss would exceed $8,000,000.

IN THE VALLEY OF THE SHADOW—By Hungerford.

—Pittsburgh Sun.

CHAPTER XXV

HOW THE STORM STARTED

"A thousand demons seemed to have been let loose a few moments before 6 o'clock," writes an eyewitness of the tornado, "when the intense roar of the storm caused all listeners to stand appalled in the homes around Bemis Park. But a few seconds passed and before most of the people there could get to the cellar stairs, they were caught in a whirl of unseen forces and some fell dead under crashing timbers while others were scratched, bruised and maimed in the chaos of debris that swirled and fell.

"I have been near tornadoes before and the sky a few moments before six showed a portent in the southwest black as ink. A party of us had just left an automobile and stepped inside a house on Cuming street for a visit. There was a gentle rain falling and occasionally a hailstone pattered. Suddenly there came the dull boom of the storm, growing more and more intense as if tightening its forces to let them loose on the man-made buildings with the scorn of the King of Furies. Great forest trees twisted and snapped,

and in ten seconds nothing was left of some of them but stumps, and some of them were pulled from the ground and vaulted in the air, the missiles of a terrible invader.

"In the house the sound was as of something ripping like a canvas, and eddies of power, not wind, but electric forces, grasped the buildings and sent them careening into a pile of twisted kindling or set them down with a jar in all kinds of grotesque poses. It was not a mere wind or a twister; there was a feeling as though an irresistible force was pushing one over the precipice of ruin. The air was like sulphur and one felt as in a daze; no effort seemed intelligent, and those swift moments passed as a terrible nightmare. In an instant almost it was over. We had moved toward the cellar stairs, but none had gone down, for the wreck was finished and we felt the calm. Swiftly taking a survey of the scene, the result was as though an army of devastation had been at work all the long day. The valley in the eastern part of Bemis Park was a mess of flattened buildings and the $25,000 mansion once erected by Tolf Hansen on a prominence at Thirty-fourth and Lincoln boulevard was a one-story junk pile, while across the street lay a row of piles of timbers, with here and there a building all awry.

"The tornado came from the southwest across Cuming street and lifted after it passed the park dis-

trict. The hills there were not touched, and in the distance the House of Hope on North Twenty-seventh street loomed up without a scar.

"Those ten seconds or more had left a trail of ruined homes and dazed, mangled half-crazed victims. The demon had done its work and vanished again into the unseen."

HOW A TORNADO FORMS

The most eminent authorities on the subject describe the formation of a tornado in practically the same manner. The conditions most favorable to the formation of tornadoes are said to exist when a layer of warm, humid air lies next to the earth, while in the same vicinity, at a higher altitude, there is a colder stratum of air. The notable windstorms have occurred in the same manner and under similar conditions. When the upper stratum of colder air with a high barometer comes into contact with a lower layer of warm, humid air, the warm air goes up. The dry cold air gives way for the warmer, and with a whirling motion the storm becomes more violent. Little whirlwinds observed in almost every community preceding a rain storm are in reality miniature tornadoes, their lessened violence being generally due to the smaller areas of atmosphere involved in the movement.

The centrifugal force due to the diurnal rotation of the earth also pushes the more dense air toward the

equator harder than it does the lighter moist air, and the lighter air is raised up by the denser and overflows toward the pole. Now a body on the earth's surface and in motion relative to it, while at the same time rotating with it, will appear to an observer on the earth to be deflected toward the right hand as it moves forward in the Northern Hemisphere, while it will appear to be deflected toward the left hand in the Southern Hemisphere. By virtue of this deflection the winds blowing toward a region of low pressure acquire a deflection, coming from any direction, which, instead of meeting at the center of the region of low pressure, causes a violent whirl around it. The barometric pressure within the whirl is consequently much lower than it would be if the winds attracted to the region did meet in the center of the low pressure area. The general movement of tornadoes is from the southwest to the northeast.

A TRUE BROTHERHOOD

EASTER SUNDAY, MARCH 23, 1913

"The churches were emptied of their happy throngs, the patter of a spring rain was bringing frowns to the faces of the newly bonneted women folk, and the children were clamoring for their evening luncheon when there fell upon Omaha, Nebraska, the most terrible tornado in the history of the United States.

"When the light of day had brought the ghastly magnitude of the horror beneath the eyes of the surviving citizens of the metropolis it was realized that the torrential downpour which followed the cyclonic demon had saved the city from annihilation by fire.

"Thus, even in the face of such deep distress, the brave Omahans have seen a true resurrection in this fateful Easter Sunday; have taken countenance of the saving grace which fell upon them, and are even now deeply engrossed in the sturdy work of erecting a new and greater residential district from the splinters and ashes of that grewsome path of ruins.

"Sweet charity is at every hand—relief is spontaneous and boundless. The True Brotherhood of Omaha has been formed in this hour of tribulation."

A DISASTER.

—Chicago Tribune.

CHAPTER XXVI

THE DEAD IN OMAHA

Following is a list of the known dead, who lost their lives in the tornado, as reported to the city authorities of Omaha:

George Anderson
Maurice Bowler
A. C. Boyd
J. B. Brooks
Marie Brooker
B. J. Barnes
Mrs. Anson H. Bigelow
Harry Blauvelt
Mrs. Bracker
Flora Cassel
Mary Christiansen
Nelson Cupka, baby
C. F. Copley
Morgan Dillon
Charlotte Davie
Mrs. Frank J. Davie
Mrs. Victoria Davis
C. E. Dillon
Paul Dunn
Cliff Daniels
Mrs. Cliff Daniels
Two daughters of Mr. and Mrs. Cliff Daniels
John Doyle
George J. Duncan
Mrs. Rose Fitzgerald
"Sonny" Ford
H. V. Fitch
T. B. I. Fields
Two foundling babies
William Fisher
Lloyd Glover
Jason L. Garrison
Henrietta Grieb
Mrs. F. G. Goodnough
Len Gardner
Mrs. William Gray
Emma Gran
Miss Freda Hulting
George Hansett
Mrs. Ellen Hensman
Marie Hanson
J. D. Hoag
Mrs. J. D. Hoag
Mrs. Hans Hanson
Hans Hanson
Andrew Henrickson
Miss Haas
Mrs. J. G. Hansen
John M. Hinz
T. E. Johnson
Miss Abbe Jepson
Mrs. Ella Johnson
Louis Jones
Andrew R. Kolb
Nathan Krinski
Mrs. Nathan Krinski
Five children of Mr. and Mrs. Krinski
Morris Kiewe
Mrs. A. W. Lavidge and baby
Marie Lindsey
Nels Larson
Patrick McEnore
——— Minkler, 3-year-old boy
Mabel Louise McBride
Mrs. C. A. Nowens
T. B. Norris
Coralie Norris
Helen Nowns

Mrs. Ida Newman
Jay Neeley or Neligh
——— Neihart
Lee Nelson
Mrs. Odessa Parks
H. J. Peck
Earl Price
Miss Anna Roesing
John Francis Ryan
Sam Riley
——— Roxie
John Ryan
Mrs. Mary Rathkey
Clarence Rathkey
Victor Rathkey
Ed. A. Shaw
Henry Strickmitter
Arthur B. Stanley, Jr.
Mrs. T. Sabor
Mrs. Julia Sullivan
Charles South
Cassius Shimer, Jr.
Mrs. E. A. Sawyer
Abner Thomas
Mrs. Mabel Mead Vandevan
Solomon Wortzel
C. P. Wiesen
Ernest Weeks
H. T. Challis
C. B. Archer
Mrs W. Gray
Mrs. W. Heneman
Patrick McEnroe
Earl Price
Fred Merkler
Scott Barber
William Newman
Mrs. Sadie Christianson
F. K. Grojean
Helen Hodges
Mrs. H. W. Adams

There were also some unidentified dead, including several nameless infants.

CHAPTER XXVII

INCIDENTS OF THE TORNADO

Charles Horn, a contractor living at the corner of Forty-second street and Dewey avenue, Omaha, occupied a cottage with a southeast exposure. On the Sunday afternoon of the tornado, upon returning from a drive with his family his automobile was left standing on the north side of the home. When the tornado appeared, Horn, his wife and their infant child took refuge in the little cellar under the house. The home was blown away from over their heads and a heavy grading wagon from a construction camp nearly a block away was hurled through the air, landing in the cellar within a few feet of the corner in which Mr. Horn and his family had crouched for protection. The following day a search revealed the fact that Mr. Horn's automobile was comfortably lodged in the cellar of the house next door, and, with the exception of one wheel, apparently none the worse for the move.

A VISIT COST HER LIFE

Miss Freda Hulting, stenographer in a newspaper office, had gone to the home of Mrs. Ida Newman,

near the corner of Forty-fourth street and Dewey avenue, to spend the afternoon. Miss Hulting was preparing to start home when the storm struck the house. An hour later she died on an improvised stretcher while being carried to the Child-Saving station, where first aid was given the injured.

Mrs. Newman, the mother of nine children, was killed in the same house, while a son, 18 years old, who was ill with typhoid fever, died a few days later at the hospital.

FLAMES INCREASE PERIL

With the ruins of a dozen homes burning within a hundred feet of the ruins under which she was imprisoned, Mrs. Mary Sullivan screamed in agony for two hours while tons of timber and cement and brick were hauled and wrenched away in the frantic efforts of half-crazed men and women who toiled with what tools they could find in their vain effort to save the life of the woman. Shortly after 10 o'clock she was removed from the ruins of her former home, unconscious, and welcome death came within a few hours. Two other victims lost their lives within a few feet of the Sullivan home, at 4211 Harney street. Fire finished the work of devastation on the west end of the block, while the residences on both the north and south sides were mowed down like blades of grass.

Some conception of the force of the tornado which visited Omaha may be gained from the fact that a postal savings deposit slip issued to S. L. Bush, a fireman living on Howard street, Omaha, was found by one of the carriers of the postoffice at Pomeroy, Ia., 112 miles from Omaha, in a direct line. The certificate was returned to Postmaster John C. Wharton by Malcolm Peterson, postmaster at Pomeroy.

DRIVEN INSANE BY TORNADO

Crazed by the loss of his wife and two sons, John Rathke, a farmer, who claimed Sixtieth and Grover streets as his home before the tornado annihilated it, completely disappeared. Searching parties from the county and city headquarters scoured the countryside for him for two days, but no trace of the bereaved husband and father was found.

When his home, which was situated on Sixtieth street on the hill directly in the path of the storm, between Ralston and Omaha, was sucked into the skies and scattered to the four winds, the horribly crushed bodies of his wife and sons were carried nearly half a mile and were later found in a group on the farm of Henry Olsen, directly northeast. There was not an unbroken bone in any of the bodies. That of Clarence, the oldest boy, was pinned to the earth by a seven-foot length of two-by-four timber, which passed through his chest and out his back.

Neighbors coming to comfort Mr. Rathke found him prodding about in the ruins with a stick.

"Yes, they're gone," he muttered, with no change of countenance when consoling words were spoken to him, "but I'll find them—I'll find them—they're around here somewhere—they must be!"

At that time the three bodies were in an undertaking establishment.

Rathke was last seen wandering aimlessly away across the fields in the snow storm.

SOCIETY WOMAN FLED BAREFOOTED

Miss Bella Robinson was dressing at her home in the fashionable Hanscom Park district when the tornado struck the house. Her home was wrecked, but she escaped uninjured by running out of the door of the house just as the building collapsed. Miss Robinson was dressed only in a bathrobe and a pair of bedroom slippers. In her wild flight through the dark, muddy streets she lost both slippers before she reached the edge of the storm belt and was taken into the house of some friends. With her feet cut and bleeding, Miss Robinson would not submit to medical attention until her mother, who was caught in the debris, was rescued. She was cut in the face with flying glass, and her hands and arms were severely bruised in the numerous falls which she suffered in her wild flight over the wreck of buildings through the rain and mud.

CONDUCTOR SAVED MANY LIVES

When a North Twenty-fourth street car was caught in the cyclone at Twenty-fourth and Lake, the lives of a number of the passengers were undoubtedly saved by the coolness of Conductor Ord Hensley and a passenger, Charles H. Williams.

"Looking up the street we saw the cyclone coming," said Mr. Williams. "It looked to me like a big, white balloon. Of course everybody was scared and a number of the women passengers screamed.

"Shouting, 'Everybody keep cool and lie in the center of the car,' Conductor Hensley set the example and everybody did as he said. In an instant every bit of glass in the car was shattered and boards and other debris were hurled against the car's side. Many heavy boards came through the windows. One heavy beam came in a window at one side and was left there, sticking through a window on the other side.

"In the brief glimpse I had of the approaching tornado, I could see houses tumbling and trees being torn up. After the tornado passed we left the car, being careful to avoid the live wires, which was another suggestion of the conductor's, and helped in the rescue work."

BLOWN THROUGH PLATE GLASS

Two members of the Falconer family at 2214 Maple street were hurled through a big front window

when the tornado wrecked their home. The front side of the house was turned upside down and one of the two landed in a settee on top of the ruin. Neither was hurt beyond minor scratches.

NEWLY WEDDED PAIR HURT

Mr. Harry Greenstreet, whose wedding to Miss Lucile Race took place Saturday evening, narrowly escaped with his life. He and Mrs. Greenstreet were at the home of Mrs. Greenstreet's mother, Mrs. Cora Curtis, on Cuming street. They had just come down stairs when the roof of the house was carried off and the flying bricks hit Mrs. Curtis, making a bad scalp wound. Both Mr. and Mrs. Greenstreet were injured, but neither fatally.

GIRL WEDGED BETWEEN TREES

Wedged between two fallen trees so tightly that firemen had to saw the trunks in two to liberate her, Miss Elsie Sweedler, after two hours of unconsciousness, went to the Harney telephone exchange and reported for duty. She worked all night. This is the story of one telephone operator's heroic sacrifice for the public good Sunday night. There were many others.

Devoted work by the operators enabled the company to maintain its service in districts undamaged by the storm through the two days of unprecedented traffic after Sunday night. Sixty girls were quartered at

downtown hotels and rooming houses Sunday night, in order to save time and be ready for work again Monday morning. All worked many hours overtime.

Thirty girls whose homes were wrecked by the storm were provided with complete outfits of clothing by the company, and most of them remained at work.

WRECKED CITY PROSECUTOR'S HOME

City Prosecutor Fred Anheuser, just recovering from a serious illness at his home, was in the tornado. In his room and in the basement of his home was the only furniture in the house that was not crushed into splinters. Every window was blown in and the house sprung awry.

The house was not as badly demolished as many about it and was immediately thrown open as a temporary hospital. Dozens of people were cared for during the night following the storm, being furnished with sandwiches and coffee.

"A peculiar incident at our home," said Anheuser, "was that a wooden box containing a delicate wax doll was broken to bits, but the doll, which would not survive the slightest bump, was uninjured. The box was under the bed in my little sister's room. The doll was found lying across the room and the box was still under the bed, a little heap of real fine kindling wood."

INJURED LAY IN THE RAIN

One of the pitiable cases of the storm was that of

J. A. Allen, a night watchman, who lived on Walnut street. He had just gone to work when the house, in which were Mrs. Allen, Amasa Allen and a stepson, Ambrose Gregg, was struck. Mrs. Allen's knee cap was broken, eye cut, face and head cut, bad bruises on body which resulted in hemorrhages, showing there was internal injury; Ambrose Gregg was so badly hurt that he was taken to a hospital, where his life was despaired of; Amasa Allen had an eye gouged out and was bruised about the face, head and body. The entire family lay on the prairie in the storm until midnight, when they were found by two men. The men had no conveyance, but managed to half carry and half lead the injured to a refuge fifteen blocks from where the accident happened.

IMPRISONED NEAR GASOLINE TANK

Mrs. C. J. Roberts, president of the Frances Willard union of the W. C. T. U., had a most trying experience. Her home on South Fifty-third street was demolished. Mrs. Roberts was thrown to the cellar where she was pinned down by timbers. Just in front of her and close to the furnace was a five-gallon can of gasoline. This was overturned and Mrs. Roberts, pinned down, with fascinated gaze saw this gasoline slowly run from the can and in a small stream meander toward the furnace. A deflection in the cellar floor near the furnace was all that prevented an explosion.

For one hour and a half Mrs. Roberts was pinned there while Mr. Roberts made frantic efforts to remove the timber and get to her. Later he secured the assistance of two men and they got her out.

WIFE DEAD, DEMENTED HUSBAND FLED

Someone telephoned to Coroner Crosby that a woman was dead in the ruins of an apartment hotel at Thirty-second and Charles streets. The woman's husband, the informant said, was demented as a result of the storm and had disappeared.

A newspaper auto was commandeered by the police and hurried to the place. In the ruins of an apartment at 1409 North Thirty-second street the body was found. The head had been crushed into an unrecognizable mass of flesh and bone.

HIS THIRD TORNADO

John Wright, a watchman employed by the Omaha & Northwestern railroad and stationed at Fourteenth and Locust streets, had a premonition Sunday afternoon that a disastrous storm would sweep Omaha. As a result he went to his work an hour earlier than usual.

"I believe I'll go downtown and avoid the rain," Wright told his wife as he left the house.

It probably was fifteen or twenty minutes after he reached his little switch shanty when the storm broke. Wright declared afterward that he could hear the roar

of the twister many minutes before it reached the vicinity of Fourteenth and Locust.

While Wright's little shanty was not harmed, houses and business buildings only a few short blocks away were razed. Freight cars near where he was stationed were blown away, and others were whirled away down the tracks by the wind.

The storm was the third of like character through which Wright had passed. Sixteen years ago in Norfolk, Neb., his home was partially demolished by a tornado, and forty-two years ago in Panora, Ia., when the town was wiped out, he barely escaped with his life.

MOTHER AND BABE IN STORM

Starting out from their home immediately after the storm to aid in the rescue work Sunday night, County Commissioner Frank Best and Mrs. Best within a block from their home found a woman clad only in a thin nightgown walking the street distractedly in the driving rain, with a three-weeks-old babe clasped to her breast. Mr. and Mrs. Best took the pitiful pair to the nearest house, where they were cared for. Mr. and Mrs. Best then went to the Douglass County hospital where they assisted in caring for the host of injured brought there up to midnight.

NURSE CAUGHT ON THE STAIRS

A nurse at the T. B. Norris home escaped with her life, but was taken from the wreck with a leg so badly

crushed that amputation was thought necessary. She was on her way downstairs when the storm struck. Her leg was pinned between a heavy timber and the foundation stones. Rescuers had to saw away timbers and knock out brick and stone of the foundation before they could release her.

GRADING CAMP BLOWN ENTIRELY AWAY

The grading camp of G. W. Condon, at Forty-second and Harney streets, was blown entirely away. Grading machinery and wagons were lifted up and scattered about adjacent territory. Most of it was little injured.

One man was killed, one fatally injured and two more were seriously injured. There were about twenty men at the camp at the time. Five mules were killed. The seventy horses in the camp were unhurt.

STREETS RENDERED IMPASSABLE

Streets in the wrecked district were wholly impassable in many places. At some points practically whole houses had been dumped in a tangled heap on the pavement, while great trees lay across the streets, and wreckage of all sorts made a barrier that prevented the passage of any vehicle and made progress of pedestrians very difficult. In the darkness and the mass of fallen wires it frequently was demonstrated that the shortest way was by going several blocks around.

On Thirty-fourth and Hawthorne avenue, in the

Bemis Park district, where half a dozen homes were utterly destroyed, the ruin was so complete and the debris so heterogeneously mixed that it was actually impossible to determine in the darkness just where some of the structures had stood.

An automobile was blown over on its side on the sidewalk on California street and lay jammed against the stone wall surrounding the Joslyn grounds.

FIVE SCHOOL BUILDINGS WRECKED

Five public school buildings lay in the track of the twister, and all of them were badly damaged. The Beals school had the entire upper part cut off, and will have to be rebuilt; the Columbian was very badly battered; the Saunders had a part of the roof blown in; the Long had all the glass blown out and the roof of the new annex carried away, and the Lake was almost completely wrecked.

Superintendent of School Buildings Duncan Findlayson was out of the city. His home was completely destroyed, and the house lay as flat as a postage stamp. All the family were away.

The home of Principal Rusmisel of the High School of Commerce, in the Bemis Park district at Thirty-third and Nicholas, was wrecked.

THIRTY FIRES FOLLOW TORNADO

Immediately following the tornado Sunday night fire added its horrors and deaths to the already large

list of catastrophes. A total of over thirty fire calls were received during the night, with many heavy losses of property. The fires originated from broken gas pipes and hot ranges, although in many cases the exact cause will never be known.

Broken telephone wires stopped communication with the fire companies and the distant companies had to be notified by horseback riders, which delayed and complicated the alarms. The fire chief's office was unable to give out an exact report as to the losses.

A long strip of cottages from Leavenworth to Center street on Forty-eighth street was totally lost. This was probably the longest fire to burn because of its extreme length. The houses were in ruins when the fires broke out and made the work of the firemen extremely difficult. About twenty houses or more were burned in this fire.

Another bad fire caused the destruction of eight houses on Farnam street between Forty-second and Forty-third streets. Several others in this neighborhood were slightly burned, but not total losses.

Following the collapse of the Idlewild pool hall at Twenty-fourth and Willis avenue, fire broke out, which penned in the negroes then in the building and many perished there.

W. C. McLean's home at 2705 Hamilton street was among those to suffer heavily from tornado and fire.

A storehouse owned by Miss Nettie Yerga, at 2301 South Twenty-ninth street, was struck by lightning and totally destroyed.

CHILD SENT FOR DOCTOR LOST

John Sullivan experienced a harrowing night following the storm. He saved his two small children from injury by throwing them to the floor and lying over them. His face was cut open by flying glass and his head severely bruised. His wife, who fled to the basement, was badly injured about the back and lost two toes when a heavy range fell on her foot.

Sullivan's mother, Mrs. Julia Sullivan, living with her daughter next door, was killed. When he found his mother dying he at once sent his little daughter after a doctor. The child became lost. All night the father wandered about the wreckage, without shoes, looking for her. The little one was finally found and the family went to a hotel.

AGED WOMAN SURVIVED

The beautiful home of Dr. D. C. Bryant on Sherman avenue was completely wrecked, but its occupants, Dr. Bryant, his wife and the latter's mother, escaped without injury. However, the two latter suffered severe shocks. Mrs. Bryant, who has been ill for several months, was prostrated. Her mother, aged 92 years, was dug out of the ruins in the cellar. They found refuge with neighbors more fortunate than they.

GIRL BLOWN IN FURNACE

The home of George W. Ketcham was totally destroyed by the storm. He was night foreman at the Vinton street car barn and was not at home at the time. Mrs. Ketcham was badly injured. Miss Ethel Ketcham was thrown in the furnace and her head and face badly injured. Earl Ketcham was in the yard; the house was demolished and part fell on him, inflicting serious injuries. Miss Jean Watson was visiting the family and was injured in the wreck. Misses Irene and Ruth Figge were also visiting and were seriously injured. The only thing that saved the family and visitors from death was that they reached the basement just as the house left the foundation, and the destruction was so complete that the checkers never found the house when making up the list of demolished houses.

KILLED TRYING TO SAVE MOTHER

The pathetic feature of the death of Mabel McBride, daughter of Will McBride, of Farnam street, was the fact that she was trying to save and protect her mother and small brother who were attempting to get out. She had got them together in a corner of one of the rooms, when the roof blew away, the floors fell, and a heavy board fell through, striking her on the head and killing her instantly.

STORM ENDS MUSICAL CAREER

A promising musical career was brought to a tem-

porary close by the tornado. Miss Grace Slabaugh, the young daughter of Judge W. W. Slabaugh, was taken to the Nicholas Senn hospital with the tendons of her right wrist severed. She is an accomplished pianist.

Miss Slabaugh gave many recitals even as a girl. A course of foreign study had been planned for her, and a great career was believed to be in store for her. Visitors from the musical centers of Europe passing through Omaha have heard her play and pronounced her a marvel.

When taken from the wreck of her father's home at Fortieth and Dodge streets into the house of Gus Renze, a block further west, the girl coolly watched Dr. Alexander sew the ligaments of her wrist together, taking no anaesthetic of any kind.

"Go ahead, doctor," was her only remark.

Miss Slabaugh was tennis champion of the Omaha High School two years ago.

TOMBSTONE BLOWN FOUR MILES

Lying against the trunk of a tree in front of the ruined home of Charles A. Hofmann on North Twenty-eighth street, was found an old iron tombstone. It had evidently been blown over four miles, from the Holy Sepulcher Cemetery at Forty-eighth and Leavenworth streets, and was covered with wreckage. The slab weighed over 50 pounds and bore the following inscription: "Mamie Donahue, born De-

cember 6, 1887; died November 30, 1890. Gone from our home, but not from our heart."

The tornado passed through West Lawn Cemetery and the Bohemian National Cemetery, both on West Center street, where the storm entered Omaha, but this marker could scarcely have come from either of these graveyards. West Lawn has only been in existence three years and the Bohemian Cemetery is used for none but Bohemians.

A corner of Holy Sepulcher Cemetery was touched by the twister, and it is thought the tombstone must have been carried from that place.

Mr. Hofmann, a blacksmith, lost his home and household effects, but his family escaped uninjured.

HORSE HUNG IN A TREE

D. H. Harris and Roy Perkins, market gardeners from the territory lying between Carter and Florence lakes, came into Omaha with the report that that section was swept and serious damage done by the tornado.

Either totally wrecked or partially damaged were Swift's boarding house and the property of Emil Papke, D. H. Harris, Otto Hoot, Charles Junge, Peter Lush, Jack Wernbach and Roy Perkins.

The hotbeds and greenhouses of gardeners were destroyed and immense property damage was done in

the total destruction of the crop of early hothouse vegetables.

This section furnished its storm freak story from the farm of Otto Hoot. The tornado hung Hoot's horse and buggy in a tree, twenty feet from the ground. The struggles of the horse jerked the equipage free, the animal landed on his feet and then proceeded to run away.

HOME MOVED TO STREET

The home of Mr. and Mrs. R. A. Thompson, at Sixteenth street and Sherman avenue, was lifted from its foundations and deposited, a broken, desolate mass, in the middle of the street. Not a house on Binney street east to Sherman avenue escaped. Mr. and Mrs. Thompson and their little daughter, Ruth, were fortunately away from home at the time the tornado struck.

ACTIVE IN RESCUE WORK

Dr. Charles Needham, whose home at Thirty-sixth and Burt streets was first demolished by the tornado and then burned by fire, aided in the rescue work at the T. B. Norris home, on Burt street, where three were killed. The body of the little Norris girl was found in the ruins of the home at daybreak.

IMMENSE LOSS IN AUTOMOBILES

Automobiles picked up bodily from the street and hurled in all directions were to be seen in various stages

of demolition in every section of the city. The automobile loss formed a large part of the property destruction. One machine, an electric coupe, was raised from the street at Thirty-seventh and Farnam and hurled, straight up, half a block and thrown across the sidewalk on the opposite side of the street and buried in mud above the wheels. Another was seen on Thirty-ninth avenue, crushed upside-down against a granite wall. Many drivers caught in the storm were badly injured.

ANOTHER FREAK OF THE TORNADO

One of the freaks of the tornado was found in connection with another automobile on North Thirty-eighth street, near Webster street. The machine had stood in a garage. The garage was torn from its foundations and hurled bottom-side up 100 yards away. The car stood unharmed on the ceiling of the structure, which was shorn of walls and floor in transit.

CLEARING THE WRECKAGE

At daybreak scores of linemen and laborers employed by the electric light and telephone companies invaded the devastated areas with line equipments, pickaxes and shovels, and began the seemingly endless task of clearing away the tons of debris cluttering the streets. The street railway company had gangs of men at work all night in an effort to straighten out the tangle of its demoralized service.

The destruction of hundreds of homes meant a total loss to home owners, particularly those of limited means, as only a small percentage of them carried tornado insurance on their property.

SECRETARY BRYAN ON THE STORM

Standing on the porch of his home at Fairview, William Jennings Bryan, secretary of state, watched the twisting twin funnels of destruction high above and to the south of Lincoln on Sunday night, March 23.

The ominous appearing clouds attracted his attention, and, with Mrs. Bryan and Robert Ross, his personal stenographer, Secretary Bryan calmly calculated where the destruction was to be, although the magnitude of the life and property loss far exceeded his fears. Upon his arrival in Chicago, three days later, his first inquiry was for the latest reports about the damage.

"From my house at Fairview," said the secretary, "I could see the two twirling, twisting funnel-shaped clouds. When we first discovered them they were high up, but gradually circling toward the ground, making the descent in wide sweeps.

"It was about 5:30 o'clock and the clouds, whirling and twisting, made an ominous spectacle. Later we began to receive reports of the damage. It just seemed a miracle that the cyclone missed Lincoln. The people stood in the streets and on their doorsteps and watched

that exhibition of certain death and destruction in the distance.

"Coming east our train seemed to travel in the wake of the cyclone. Town after town was leveled to the ground. In some places not a single building even reared its roof to denote there was a shelter. We sort of followed the storm. Everywhere the people were digging in the debris, removing dangerous parts of demolished buildings and otherwise making matters safe for those who escaped the fury of the winds and rain.

HAD ITS EYE ON OMAHA

"The sight of the damage was sufficient to indicate what the immediate havoc of it all must have been. And, too, I learn that the West was not alone in the zone of destruction. Indiana and other states have reported a long list of dead and injured and great property loss.

"Omaha seems to have been the attraction for the storm. The great revolving wind cloud whirled away in several instances from cities and then when over Omaha dropped down onto it, enveloping the business district in its destructive maw.

"Around Omaha the towns and country practically are untouched, as far as any great damage is concerned. The storm ripped right through Omaha, tearing down buildings and tumbling them into piles of brick and mortar, but leaving unscathed great trees, which one

surely would expect to have been caught by the wind and torn up by the roots."

SYMPATHY FOR THE EAST

Secretary Bryan was eager to learn of the destruction by floods in Ohio, and when told Dayton was reported to be flood-swept, expressed the deepest sympathy for those homeless.

"Apparently we in the West had best give sympathy at this time," he said, "in addition to receiving it. I think the levee in Dayton must have been near a thickly populated district. It is awful and I sincerely hope the reports we have received of the loss of life and destruction of property will be found to have been predicated more on the excitement of the moment rather than on subsequent disclosures."

CHAPTER XXVIII

THE PULPIT ON DISASTERS

Dr. J. P. Brushingham, pastor of the South Park Methodist Episcopal Church, Chicago, told his congregation, on the Sunday after the floods and tornado, that the calamities made good food for reflection for pessimists who believed their lot the worst possible.

"I desire to call attention to five lessons from the recent sad disasters which have shocked the nation and called forth the sympathetic interest of the world," he said.

"First, a lesson in contentment and gratitude. Brother Growler and Brother Discontent should remind themselves that persons as good and as bad as they have not only had a window pane shattered but the house swept away by wind, flood or fire. Why complain? You will be richer, healthier and happier if you are cheerfully grateful.

"Second, a lesson of mysterious providence. I congratulate the man to whom such providences are an open book. I stand stunned in the presence of such calamity and can only cry 'Mystery! Mystery!'

"Are the cities of Omaha, Dayton, Peru and Columbus wicked above the other cities of our native land? Are we fatalists and do we believe that whatever is to happen happens?

"Do we believe in the Malthusian theory, that Providence is under obligation to flood, famine, pestilence and war in order that the population may not become excessive?

"Again I answer, 'Mystery!' Must I therefore reject the providence of God? Not unless I reject everything else which I do not understand—the blossoming of a flower and why health is not contagious, rather than disease. Science must not be rejected because of mystery, neither should religion, for science without mystery is unknown; religion without mystery would be absurd.

"Third, a lesson of benevolence and Samaritanism. Money and relief have poured in from all sources. Chicago has not been unmindful of the charity that sprang to her relief in the dark days of 1871. Instead of the hard-clasped hand of thrift we have seen the open palm of unselfish generosity. It is said the government should anticipate and provide against such destruction of life and property. Be that as it may, now is the time to bury the dead and succor the living.

"Fourth, a lesson in heroism. Not only Mr. Patterson, a great man in the world of commerce, but

humble fishermen, risked their lives to save others. We may thank God for that fine altruism which makes our poor humanity akin to God.

"Fifth, a lesson in personal religious privilege and obligation. A solemn warning, 'Be ye also ready.' Let each hour be as if it were the last."

CALAMITY MADE HEROES

Rev. Jenkin Lloyd Jones of All Souls' Church, Chicago, a preacher of international fame, said, in a sermon March 30:

"The story of the dire calamities that have swept over our nation in these latter days, of the cyclone in Omaha and of the deluge in Ohio and Indiana, proves that the military resources in the hands of an intelligent administration can be and have been turned to benign influences. But the situation would have been immeasurably sadder if the starving and the drowned had to await the military trained for the courage and the devotion that brought succor."

THE WORLD IS BETTER

Rev. Frederick E. Hopkins said, in a sermon at Park Manor Congregational Church, Chicago:

"There were fires and floods and cyclones before Jesus came on earth to show us what God is like. But we ransack the old records in vain to find the story of such sympathy as is being shown today. Why? Because those were unchristian ages. There have been

awful disasters since our Lord came—some of them worse than anything that has happened during the past week. But only in a small proportion have the people given as they are giving now. This shows how much better the world is than it ever was before."

ALL EVIL IS DEVIL-BORN

Rev. Frank C. Bruner of Ogden Park M. E. Church, Chicago, in his sermon March 30, said:

"In the startling cyclonic events of the last few days the interrogations fly thick and fast: What had God to do in manufacturing a cyclone? This is a natural question in the light of the appalling loss of life.

"This tragedy of the cyclone, which seems to have a career in all the ages of human history, does not belong to the world of Godhood.

"The biggest truth extant is that all evil is devil-born. When you take the great dramatic epic of Job and grow familiar with each act in the drama it is clear as a morning without clouds that all evil can be traced to the devil, of whom a great man said. 'Going about seeking whom he may devour.'

"The tragedy of a cyclone is not God's tragedy."

"Whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth."—Heb. xii:6.

LIST OF KILLED BY THE GREAT CYCLONE AND FLOOD.

N. B.: The following names include all the identified dead up to date of going to press.

CYCLONE VICTIMS.

Names of those who perished in the terrific storm which swept the Middle West March 23rd and 24th, 1913.

OMAHA, NEB.

Adams, Mrs. H. W., 815 S. 51st street.
Anderson, George, 24th and Lake streets.
Archer, C. B., 413 Farnam street.
Babcock, ——, infant of Mrs. W. Babcock.
Barnes, B. J., 40th and Dodge streets.
Bigelow, Mrs. A. H., 2527 Cass street.
Bleauvelt, Henry, 2912 Lake street.
Booker, Marie, 1414 N. 30th street.
Bowler, Maurice, 28th and Maurice streets.
Boyd, A. C., 21st and Clark streets.
Brooks, J. B., 501 S. 28th street.
Cady, Clarence, 14 years old.
Cassel, Flora, 2914 Lake street.
Challis, H. T., 1023 N. 23d street.
Christenson, infant son and 3 years old daughter of Maurice Christenson, 55th and Couter streets.
Cooper, Harry, telephone lineman.
Cupka, Nelson, baby from Child Saving Institute.
Daniels, Cliff, and his wife and two daughters, aged 8 and 12 years, 19th and Locust streets.
Davie, Charlotte, 4812 William street.
Davey, Mrs. Frank, 48th and Pierce streets.
Davis, Mrs. B., 4428 Jackson street.
Dillon, C. W., 24th and Grant streets.
Doyle, John, 48th and Fason streets.
Duncan, George J., 4104 Farnam street.
Dunn, Paul, colored, 28th and Patrick streets.
Fields, Bert H., 2862 Franklin street.
Fields, D. L., 2808 Franklin street.
Fisher, William, 46th and Marcy streets.
Fitch, H. V., 270 Pratt street.
Fitzgerald, Mrs. Rose, 2740 N. 20th street.
Gardner, Len, address unknown.
Garrison, Jason L., 2707 Corby street.
Glover, Lloyd, colored, 2102 N. 27th street.
Goodnough, Mrs. F. G., 4713 Mason street.
Gran, Emma, 48th and Poffleton streets.
Gray, Mrs. W., 4511 Mason street.
Gray, Mrs. Rose, 45th Street and Mayberry Ave.
Grieb, Henrietta, 27th and Burdette streets.
Grojean, F. K., 3516 Webster street.
Hamfet, George, 21st and Grant streets.
Hanson, Marie, 2723 Blondo street.
Hanson, Mr. and Mrs. J. G., 4690 Mayberry street.
Hanson, Mr. and Mrs. Hans, 47th and Pacific streets.
Hensman, Mrs. Ellen, 1021 S. 46th street.
Hendrickson, Andrew, 42nd and Harney streets.
Hinz, John M. 4519 Leavenworth street.
Hoag, Mrs. J. D., 3411 Cumming street.
Holm, Mrs. and baby daughter, 38th and Chicago streets.
Hodges, Helen, 2926 Cass street.
Hulting, Miss Freda, 2633 Chicago street.

Jepson, Miss Abbie, 10 years old, 48th and Mason streets.
Jimpson, Mr., 50th and Emmet streets.
Johnson, Mrs. Ella, 2015 N. 20th street.
Johnson, T. E., colored, 26th and Seward streets.
Jones, Louis, address unknown.
Kiewe, Moore, 2522 Burdette street.
Kolb, Andrew R., 608 S. 43d street.
Kramer, Mr., address unknown.
Krinski, Mr. and Mrs., and five children, 2308 N. 24th street.
Larsen, Nels, 522 N. 36th street.
Lavidge, Mrs., and 2 year old son, 369 S. 38th street.
Lindsey, Marie, 1413 N. 30th street.
McBride, Mabel, 4115 Farnam street.
McEnroe, Patrick, 2712 N. 20th street.
Merkler, Fred, 56th and Jackson streets.
Minkler, 3 year old boy, 56th and Jackson streets.
Newman, William, 4424 Dewey Ave.
Newman, Mrs. Ida, 4224 Dewey street.
Neely, Jay, grader at 42nd and Howard streets.
Nelson, Lee, colored, 25th and Burdette streets.
Nickols, Miss Coralie, 1802 Binney street.
Niehart, Mrs., 50th and Leavenworth streets.
Norris, T. B., 3507 Burt street.
Norris, Coralie, daughter of above, 3507 Burt street.
Nowns, Helen, 25th and Burdette streets.
Parks, Mrs. Odessa, colored, 2310 Lake street.
Peck, A. J., 4117 Farnam street.
Price, Earl, 1615 California street.
Rathkey, Mary, 60th and Grover streets.
Rathkey, Clarence, 60th and Grover streets.
Rathkey, Victor, 60th and Grover streets.
Riley, Samuel, address unknown.
Roesing, Emma, 12 years old, 27th and O streets, S. Omaha.
Roxie, Mr., 42d and Howard streets.
Ryan, John, 3414 Cumming street.
Ryan, John Francis, 11 years old, 3844 Franklin street.
Sabor, Mrs. T., 32d and Charles streets.
Sawyer, Mrs. E. A., 34th street and Lincoln boulevard.
Shaw, E. A., 4422 Howard street.
Sherwood, ——, baby, 3611 California avenue.
Shimer, Cassius, Jr., 116 S. 42d street.
South, Charles, 24th and Blondo streets.
Stanley, A. B., Jr., 1716 N. 28th street.
Strickmitter, 4402 Jackson street.
Sullivan, Mrs. Julia, 42d and Harney streets.
Thelma, baby, 2 years old, at Child Saving Institute.
Vandevan, Mrs. R. R., 3218 Charles street.
Wartzel, Solomon, 2308 N. 24th street.
Weeks, Ernest, 2127 N. 28th street.
Wiesen, C. P., 3216 Lincoln boulevard.

RALSTON, NEB.

Garrison, Jason L., 2707 Corby.
Hansen, Mrs., mother of Hans Hansen; body found at 48th and Marcy streets; burned to death.
Kimball, Mrs. Edith, 29 years old, Winnipeg.
Kimball, Frances, 2 years old.
Kiene, Morris, 2522 Burdette.
Morgan, Mary, 15 years old, daughter of Arthur Morgan.
Mote, Mrs. Ed.
McDonald, J. J.
Rathke, Mrs. ——, and two sons, aged 11 and 13; bodies found at 60th and Grover.
Said, H. F., polisher at Howard Stove Works.
Said, Mrs. H. F.
Unidentified woman.

YUTAN, NEB.

Babcock, Mrs. Will, and little daughter.
Gilster, Mrs. ——.
Hammond, Mr. and Mrs. A. R., and little son.
Ohm, ——, baby of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Ohm.
Scheele, Henry.
Starman, Herman, postmaster.
Steinbaugh, Mrs. W. H., and baby.

COUNCIL BLUFFS, IOWA

Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. ——.
Johnson, ——, infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Johnson, missing.
Norgard, ——, child of Mrs. Bert Norgard.
Poole, Mrs. William.
Rice, James H., and wife.
Rice, Margaret, 3 months old.
Schulte, John, and wife.
Unknown woman, at Donsville Crossing.

WESTON, IOWA

Swinerman, Mrs. Joseph.
Thomas, Mrs. Lon.

NEOLA, IOWA

Hopper, two young daughters of Mr. and Mrs. Lee Hopper.
Jones, Mrs. Edward.

GLENWOOD, IOWA

Lambert, Mrs. Edward.
Lambert, Desha, 12 years old.
Meritt, Clyde, 22 years old.
McDonald, Mrs. and Mrs. James.

TERRE HAUTE, IND.

Brown, James H., Sr., 57 years old.
Carter, Moses, wife and child.
Davis, Mrs. Ida, 25 years old.
Edwards, Clandis, 8 years old.
Griffin, Mrs. Belle, Gardentown, 40 years old.
Griffiths, 55 years old; died at hospital.
Houts, Joseph, 30 years old.
Houts, Bryan Leslie, 12 years old.
King, Mrs. Clara, and baby daughter Helen.
Matherly, William, 45 years old, Gardentown.
McGuire, Allan, Evansville, Ind.
Moore, Dr. Ernest L., 63 years old.
Meyers, John E., Jr., 18 years old.
Rogers, Alexander.
Tulley, Miss Hannah, 55 years old.
Watts, Albert, 40 years old, Oblong, Ill.
Unidentified boy; died at hospital.

ST. JOSEPH, MO.

Armfield, Mr. and Mrs. Luther; burned to death in ruins of home.
Reed, ——, farm hand.

ERIE, ILL.

Ellison, Lulu, 19 years old.

BERLIN, NEB.

Brandt, Mrs. ——.
Koch, Mr. and Mrs. Henry.
Koch, Albert, 15 years old.
Koch, John, 9 years old.
Tiede, Sylvia.
Unknown man, employed as section hand.

FRANKFORT, IND.

Rothenberger, Ray, 20 years old.
Rothenberger, Roscoe, 18 years old.

BURLINGTON, IND.

Garrison, Wallace.

NEW CASTLE, IND.

Wagner, John.

CHICAGO, ILL.

Pecher, Frank, lineman employed by Cosmopolitan Electric Company; fell forty feet from pole at Forty-sixth street and South Ashland avenue; instantly killed.
McDermott, lineman for Public Service Company, Evanston, knocked from electric light pole by shock of current and killed; happened on Sunday in rain which preceded big windstorm.
Rodgers, C. W., brakeman from Fond du Lac, Wis.
Sheridan, Frank, brakeman, from Fond du Lac, Wis.
Slocombe, Oslo, twelve years old, 31 N. Sawyer avenue.
Ywanowicz, Thomas, 1453 Redfield street; electrocuted by fallen electric wire at rear of home.

LIST OF FLOOD VICTIMS.

DAYTON, OHIO.

Abel, Mrs. Lucy, aged 50.
Bish, Mrs., aged 65.
Bish, Florence, aged 27.
Bish, Viola.
Bish, Mrs. Muriel.
Blitz, George.
Bond, Mrs., daughter of Mrs. Schmidt.
Collins, Mrs., and child.
Clemenceau, Mrs.
Clouser, Mrs. Marie.
Damsell, Edwin D.
Copp, Smiley, Jr.
Diss, Alma.
Diss, Hilda.
Dueru, Carl.
Eidman, Lillie, aged 31, Bolton street.
Eiderman, Ethel.
Flynn, Johnny, bellboy in Algonquin hotel.
Ford, Alexander.
Goetchall, Mr.
Goetchall, Mr.
Guy, Wm.
Gore, A. C.
Hadkins, John, National Guardsman.
Haverstick, J. N., Bell telephone manager.
Haupt, L. C., police operator.
Haupt, Mrs.
Haupt, three children.
Hawkins, Mrs.
Hosay, James, militiaman.
Jarker, John F.
Knee, Mrs. Olive.

McConnell, John, colored.
Morgenthaler, George.
Moseley, Bessie, colored.
Montgomery, George.
Parker, Charles, liveryman.
Richardson, George.
Saetiel, Anton, grocer, Vine, near Main street.
Saetiel, Mrs.
Schmidt, Mrs.
Slatt, Arthur.
Schuntz, Mrs. Carrie.
Snyder, Howard.
Snyder, Virginia.
Tree, Mrs.
Yinglin, Mrs. Lillian, 44.
Wallace, Jesse, Seattle.
Willett, Ollie, patrolmen.

COLUMBUS, OHIO.

Becker, Walter.
Becker, Mrs. Walter.
Black, Mrs. L. H.
Briggs, Mert, Briggsdale.
Coglin, M. C., state hospital attendant.
Coconese, Antonio.
Cook, Mrs. George, and baby.
Cooper, Mrs. James, and two children.
Doty, Mr. and Mrs. W. A., 1098 Bellevue avenue.
Eckert, George, wife and seven children.
Evans, William, state hospital attendant.
Fody, Frank, wife and several children.
Ford, Charles, wife and four children.
Ford, Sam, 337 South Glenwood avenue.
Garfield, Mrs. Sadie.
Gaven, Gus.
Gore, Albert C., 286 State street.
Greenlee, Mrs.
Griffins, Mr. and Mrs., and seven children, Maple street.
Hartley, Mr. and Mrs., and son Forest.
Hammerstein, Mrs. Henry.
Hayes, E. M.
Hayes, Mrs. E. M.
Heet, Charles P., and wife, 100 West Chapel.
Heir, John, wife and children.
Hambleton, John, 62 Sonder street.
Hazlett, Claud.
Hollobough, Mrs.
Houdid, Mr. and Mrs.
Hughes, David, 282 West State street.
Huston, C. H.
Jewett, Don, brakeman, Etowah, Tenn.
Kanney, Frank.
Ketcham, John, and wife.
Keys, Mrs.
Kinney, Samuel.
Lewis, E. B., editor Columbus Socialist, and wife.
Marland, Mrs. James, 318 West Goodale street.
Mashen, H. O.
Mashen, Mrs. H. O.
McDoneau, Mrs. William, and four children.
McDonald, Mr. and Mrs.
McDonough, Thomas W., 151 Chicago avenue.
McDonough, Mrs. William, and four children.
McNerney, Mrs. Delia, 257 South High street.
Mack, Norman, mother and two sisters.
Miller, Mrs. Mary.
Mix, William, wife and four children.
Nickolson, three children of Mrs. Arthur Nickolson, 434 Glenwood avenue.
Preston, Howard.
Randal, Jacob, state hospital attendant.
Rear, Johnson and Lester.
Rice, Mrs., daughter and baby girl.
Ricosen, Kenneth, wife and children.
Rice, John, and family, 926 Sullivan avenue.
Reef, Sam, Chicago avenue.
Ryerson, Curtis, wife and children.
Ropper, Mr. and Mrs., 590 West State street.
Sager, Carl, and wife.
Sandusky, E. H.
Sappler, Mr. and Mrs. John, 38 May street.
Scovill, Mrs. Sarah.
Sexton, W. A., probation officer.
Sorella, Sarah.
Shoup, C. M.
Shipling, Mr., and wife.
Stotler, John, and wife, 35 West Main street.
Taylor, Mrs., and infant.
Toy, Mrs. O. C.
Troubly, Miss.
Tucker, Mr. and Mrs.
Turney, Cleve, 355 South Glenwood avenue.
Underwood, son and daughter of Charles W.
Underwood, Mr. and Mrs., and four children.
Ways, Mr. and Mrs. John, and five children, Cable avenue.
Wright, Mrs. Rhoda K.
Weethe, Hannah.
Weisenganger, Arnold.
Entire families at 446 to 452 Center street, one block west of the river.
Seven bodies found in house on Sullivan avenue. Body of babe found in a tree.
Unknown woman fell from tree from which seven were rescued.
Unknown man, body at home of Fred E. Wright, 259 Souder avenue.

Unknown man, 55, dark hair, wart on nose; recovered at Sheridan and Sandusky streets.
Unknown man, in tree at Glenwood and Thomas avenues.
Two unidentified women, recovered from Jackson Pike.
Nine bodies, recovered at various points, now at state institution for feeble-minded youths.
Woman and baby tied in tree at Princeton and Sullivan avenues.
Seven bodies in house at Cypress and Sullivan avenues.
Baby tied in tree in Carpenter street, near Cypress.
Woman and girl, bodies at morgue, 11 West Town street.
Woman in house at Sandusky street.

DELAWARE, OHIO.

Jones, Mrs. Sam.
Jones, Miss Ethel.
Bills, Mrs.
Bills, ——.
Bills, three children.
Dunlap, Mrs. Hazel, aged 22.
Fielding, William.
Hessey, William.
Maine, James, aged 60.
Melching, K. M.
Melching, Mrs. K. M., and seven Melching children.
Milligan, ——.
Milligan, Mrs.
Milligan, child.
Smith, Mrs. Silas.
Smith, three children.
Slosson, Mrs.

TROY, OHIO.

Jones, Mrs., aged 60.
Jones, Reuben, 30, wife and three children.
Moch, Mrs. Aaron, and child.
Pearson, Martha, aged 70.
Stony, baby, 6 months; died of exposure.
Van Tile, Henry, 70.
Van Tile, George.
Van Tile, Mrs.
Van Tile, three children.
Unknown man, woman and two children.
Unknown Tramp.
Five unknown negroes.
Unknown woman, with Jones family.

PIQUA, OHIO.

Dicker, Albert.
Cruz, Elizabeth.
Dillon, Mrs. Caroline.
Zilliard, James.
Holdudorf, Mrs. Louise.
Jamison, C. B.
Kams, Isaac.
Reiber, John.
Schlosser, George.
Suble, George.
Thomas, Miss Eva.
Ward, J. C.
Wolfert, Mrs. Sarah.

AKRON, OHIO.

Knaary, John, 35, driver.
McAlvine, B., lineman, electrocuted.
Newman, Edward.
Sell, Milton E.
Unidentified baby.
Unidentified man, foreigner.

ZANESVILLE, OHIO.

Carr, John.
Carr, Mrs. John, and three Carr children.
Unidentified man, woman and baby.

HAMILTON, OHIO.

Iutzi, Leon.
McRoberts, N. C., child.
Schalschneider, Henry.
Schalschneider, Mrs. Henry and three children.

BRIGHTON, OHIO.

Burr, Fred, of Massillon, in wreck caused by flood.
Dike, George, of Toledo in wreck caused by flood.
Shanklin, Wm., of Massillon, in wreck caused by flood.

TIFFIN, OHIO.

Knecht, Jacob, and family of eight.
Klingshirn, George, and family of four.

PINE FORK, OHIO.

DeVille, Barney, drowned in home.

TOLEDO, OHIO.

Gilman, William S., watchman; drowned in Maumee River.

STRUTHERS, OHIO.

Parsing, Stanley, boy, drowned in river.

FREMONT, OHIO.

Floerro, Isaac, of Port Clinton, drowned in rescue work.

LOWELLVILLE, OHIO.

Bunn, James, fell out of boat, drowned.

SMITHVILLE, OHIO.

Erbe, Frank, fell into a cellar; drowned.

FUNK, OHIO.

Riddle, John, boat overturned; drowned.

BARBERTON, OHIO.

Newman, John.

FREMONT, OHIO.

Saller, Frank, aged 21.

MANSFIELD, OHIO.

Wise, Howard, child.

BADDOW PASS, OHIO.

Workman, ——.
Workman, Mrs. ——, and child.

MANSFIELD, OHIO.

Kuenzli, Fred.

WAYNE COUNTY.

Erb, Frank, Smithville.

YOUNGSTOWN, OHIO.

Corsing, Stanley.
Gunn, James.

BARBERTON, OHIO.

Neuman, John.

PERU, INDIANA.

Bender, Fred W.
Butler, William S.
Douglas, Charles E.
Haagland, Orville.
Harthroad, Lewis.
Hiers, Elbert.
Hosman, Mrs. James.
Lovett, Bessie.
Mays, Rev.
Miller, Frank E.
McCurdy, Thomas.
Propsck, Thomas.
Sand, Charles.
Smith, Mrs. Elsie.
Stettler, Clinton.
Stettler, Mrs. Rose.
Smith, Bert.
Strumn, Mrs. Frances.
Vollmar, Daniel.
Whittle, Mrs. Rose.

INDIANAPOLIS, IND.

Morris, William, wife and two children, drowned.
Woman, unknown; died in church after being rescued.
Family, father, mother and four children, dead in house in Morris street; unable to rescue bodies.

FORT WAYNE, IND.

Cramer, Esther, fourteen years old.
Madden, Alice, fourteen years old.
Monnett, Peter G.
Wood, Arda, fifteen years old.
Wise, Kittie, seven years old.

BROOKVILLE, IND.

Buckingham, Miss Sophia.
Bunz, Mrs. William, Sr.
Colebank, Miss Mary.
Freis, John, wife and two children.
Freis, Mrs. Anthony.
Lansing, Joseph, wife and child.
Sears, Mrs. Robert and two children.

LOGANSPORT, IND.

Maxwell, Luther.
Wentziel, Emil.

LAFAYETTE, IND.

Woolery, Leland T., student at Purdue University.

NEW TRENTON, IND.

Brown, Lewis.
Brown, Mrs. Lewis, and three children.

SOUTH ST. LOUIS, MO.

Ross, William J.

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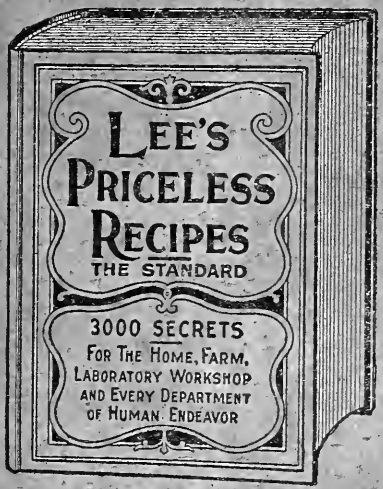

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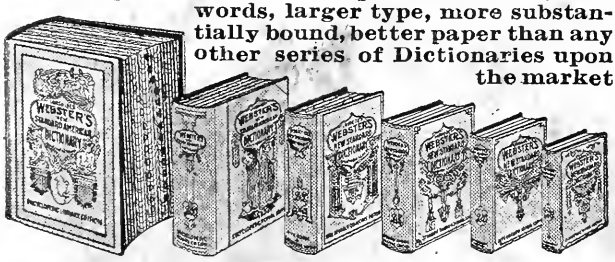

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